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match

weekly

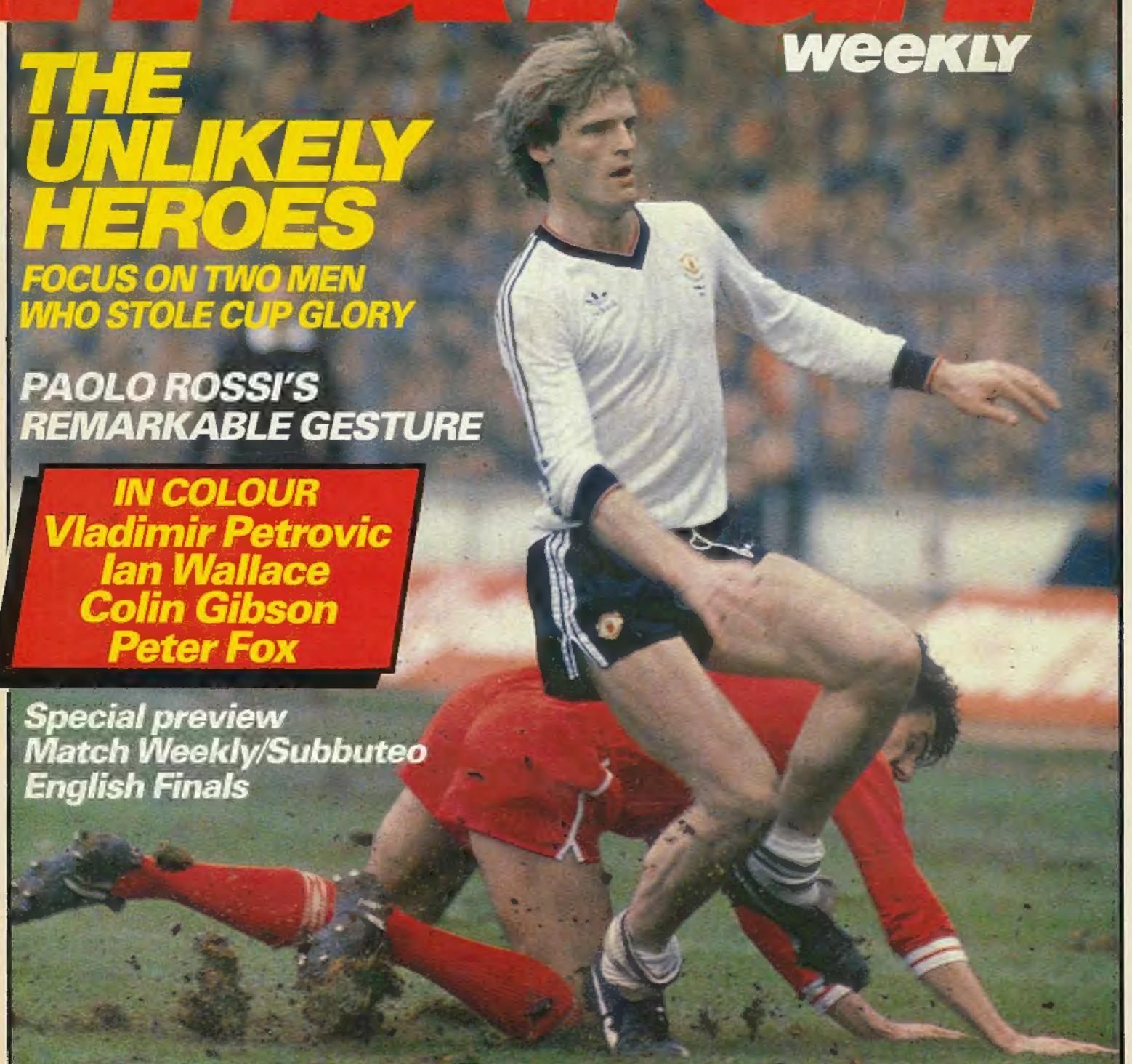
THE UNLIKELY HEROES

FOCUS ON TWO MEN
WHO STOLE CUP GLORY

PAOLO ROSSI'S
REMARKABLE GESTURE

IN COLOUR
Vladimir Petrovic
Ian Wallace
Colin Gibson
Peter Fox

Special preview
Match Weekly/Subbuteo
English Finals



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OLDHAM'S FIRST DIVISION DREAM

LIVERPOOL'S ROUTE TO THE CHAMPIONSHIP

Date	Opponents	Scorers	Att.
Aug. 28	West Brom (h)	2-0 Lee, Neal (pen)	35,652
Aug. 31	Birmingham (a)	0-0	20,176
Sept. 4	Arsenal (a)	2-0 Hodgson, Neal	36,429
Sept. 7	Nott'm For. (h)	4-3 Hodgson 2, Souness, Rush	27,145
Sept. 11	Luton (h)	3-3 Souness, Rush, Johnston	33,694
Sept. 18	Swansea (a)	3-0 Rush 2, Johnston	20,322
Sept. 25	Southampton (h)	5-0 Whelan 2, Lawrenson 2, Souness	32,966
Oct. 2	Ipswich (a)	0-1	24,342
Oct. 9	West Ham (a)	1-3 Souness	32,500
Oct. 16	Man. Utd (h)	0-0	40,853
Oct. 23	Stoke (a)	1-1 Lawrenson	29,411
Oct. 30	Brighton (h)	3-1 Dalglish 2, Lawrenson	27,929
Nov. 6	Everton (a)	5-0 Rush 4, Lawrenson	57,741
Nov. 13	Coventry (h)	4-0 Rush 3, Dalglish	27,870
Nov. 20	Notts County (a)	2-1 Johnston, Dalglish	16,914
Nov. 27	Tottenham (h)	3-0 Neal (pen), Dalglish 2	40,691
Dec. 4	Norwich (a)	0-1	22,909
Dec. 11	Watford (h)	3-1 Neal 2 pens, Rush	36,690
Dec. 18	Aston Villa (a)	4-2 Dalglish, Rush, Kennedy, Hodgson	34,568
Dec. 27	Man. City (h)	5-2 Dalglish 3, Neal, Rush	44,664
Dec. 28	Sunderland (a)	0-0	35,041
Jan. 1	Notts County (a)	5-1 Rush 3, Dalglish 2	33,603
Jan. 3	Arsenal (h)	3-1 Rush, Dalglish, Souness	37,713
Jan. 15	West Brom (a)	1-0 Rush	24,560
Jan. 22	Birmingham (h)	1-0 Neal	30,986
Feb. 5	Luton (a)	3-1 Souness, Rush, Kennedy	18,434
Feb. 12	Ipswich (h)	1-0 Dalglish	34,976
Feb. 26	Man. Utd (a)	1-1 Dalglish	57,397
Mar. 5	Stoke (h)	5-1 Dalglish 2, Neal, Johnston, Souness	30,020
Mar. 12	West Ham (h)	3-0 Pike og, Lee, Rush	28,511
Mar. 19	Everton (h)	0-0	44,737
Mar. 22	Brighton (a)	2-2 Rush 2	25,030
Apr. 2	Sunderland (h)	1-0 Souness	35,821
Apr. 4	Man. City (a)	4-0 Fairclough 2, Souness, Kennedy	35,647
Apr. 9	Swansea (h)	3-0 Rush, Lee, Fairclough	30,010
Apr. 12	Coventry (a)	0-0	14,821
Apr. 16	Southampton (a)	2-3 Dalglish, Johnston	23,578

● Liverpool's score first in each case.

KOP KINGS CANTER TO THE TITLE

EASY,

LIVERPOOL are Champions once again! And they have taken the title in remarkable style — even by their own high standards. The trophy was theirs with five matches still to play!

'Match' sought the instant reaction of regular 'Match' columnist and Liverpool skipper Graeme Souness. And we bring you an at-a-glance guide to how the title was won.

'WE WEREN'T OUT TO DO LIVERPOOL FAVOURS'
— KEVIN SHEEDY

was simply a formality for Liverpool without us having to beat Manchester United.

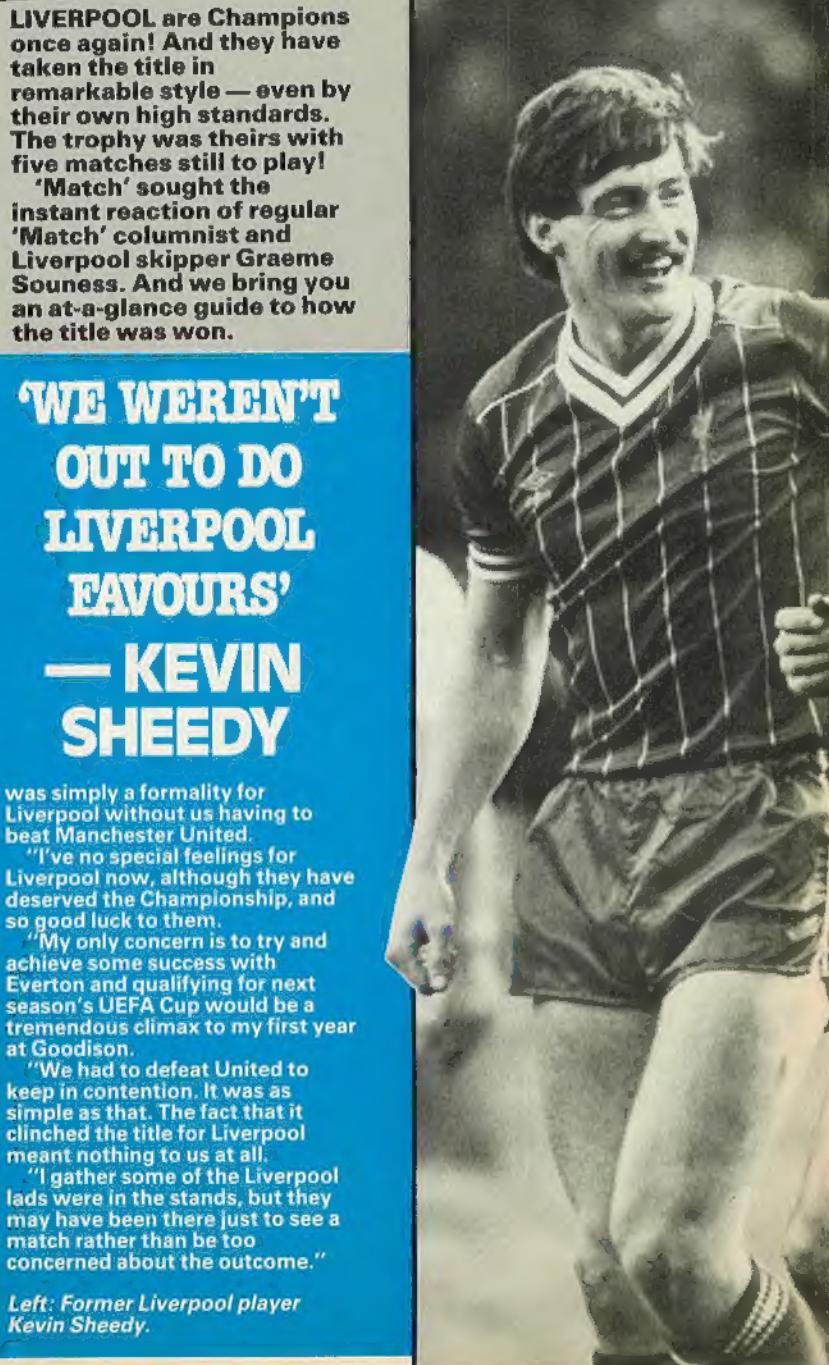
"I've no special feelings for Liverpool now, although they have deserved the Championship, and so good luck to them."

"My only concern is to try and achieve some success with Everton and qualifying for next season's UEFA Cup would be a tremendous climax to my first year at Goodison."

"We had to defeat United to keep in contention. It was as simple as that. The fact that it clinched the title for Liverpool meant nothing to us at all."

"I gather some of the Liverpool lads were in the stands, but they may have been there just to see a match rather than be too concerned about the outcome."

Left: Former Liverpool player Kevin Sheedy.



IRONIC as it may seem, Liverpool's 14th Football League Championship was secured by their Merseyside rivals Everton.

It was their 2-0 victory over Manchester United at Goodison Park that transformed the inevitable into a certainty for Bob Paisley's men.

But Everton's Kevin Sheedy, an Anfield player himself until his summer move across the divided city, claims that thoughts of clinching the title for Liverpool never crossed their minds.

"The possibility was built up by the Press, but we never concerned ourselves with that," he says.

"Our minds were concentrated on achieving three points to keep alive our chances of qualifying for Europe next season.

"Winning the Championship



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FRONT COVER CAPTION: Manchester United's Gordon McQueen is tackled by Liverpool's Ian Rush.

POLAND and Brighton are worlds apart . . . but those were the places I was thinking of when Liverpool were finally confirmed as League Champions.

As I sat in the stands at Goodison Park and watched the Everton lads kill off Manchester United's title aspirations, I couldn't help thinking about what might have been.

It wasn't the highspots of the season which came flooding back . . . it was the lows, like FA Cup defeat at home to First Division strugglers Brighton and going out of Europe to Widzew Lodz.

Everyone knows that the FA Cup is the only trophy that Liverpool haven't won under manager Bob Paisley and we dearly wanted to lift it for him.

It just wasn't to be. Our old

EASY!!

team-mate Jimmy Case made sure of that with the only goal of the game.

Going out to 'The Seagulls' — who we'd expect to beat nine times out of ten — was a big disappointment.

We should have been able to beat Lodz over two legs but we failed to do the business at home and lost it by conceding two silly goals over there.

But to bounce back from two major setbacks like that and win the League title so convincingly shows the true grit and determination in our side.

Cup competitions are for individuals who perhaps turn it on once every six games. The Championship is all about teamwork and character — that's why it's the best prize to win.

It epitomises everything that is good in English football and we are proud once again to be at the top of the tree.

This is my fourth Championship medal in five years at Anfield and it feels just as good as the first . . . now I'm hungry for my next one!

It certainly hasn't dulled my appetite. The moment there's the slightest sign of slackness in my attitude or will to win, I know I'll be shown the door at Liverpool.

Unlike when we won the trophy last season, we were never out of the reckoning this time. At one stage last year we were 10th in the First Division and the title looked a million miles away. We never got our act together until the turn of the year, but we clicked straight into gear this season.

At the start of the season I predicted that Manchester United would be our closest rivals and that's how it turned out.

The fact that they have reached two cup finals this season shows what a big threat they are and I believe Ron Atkinson's men will be the main challengers next term.

Tottenham were another of my fancies and I believe they would have been up there had they not been ravaged by injuries. For the first time in three years, they've had to do without a trophy.

The surprise team of the season was undoubtedly Watford. No-one

Left: The incomparable Kenny Dalglish salutes another goal with team-mate David Hodgson.



It's ours again! Liverpool skipper Graeme Souness cradles the League Championship trophy at Anfield last week. Exclusive picture.

expected them to do as well as they have.

Graham Taylor's side have attracted a lot of criticism for the way they play, but nobody at Liverpool will argue with their style.

Although we beat them 3-1 at Anfield in December, they looked a very dangerous side and really impressed me.

One of the highspots of the season for me was going to Highbury early in the campaign and winning 2-0. Arsenal are our bogey team and we never seem to do well there.

I am also pleased with my goal tally. Following our game at Southampton, I'd got nine and that made me third in our League scoring charts behind the incredible Ian Rush and Kenny Dalglish.

It's a great feeling scoring goals, but I've never really worried about that part of my game. I'm a creator of chances and, as long as someone is sticking them away, I'm happy.

This season we've been lucky with injuries and got away with using a small squad. The manager has gone on record as saying that no side will win the title again with so few players.

He says you need a bigger squad these days to cope with injuries and the number of matches played in a season. From that, I expect to see a few new faces arrive at Anfield during the summer break.

He praised the players for the way we got through the season, but I certainly never felt any extra pressure because we'd got a small staff.

It might have been different if we'd picked up a couple of serious injuries, but there's such a fabulous atmosphere at Anfield that it's easy to enjoy your work. I doubt there's better team spirit anywhere else in the country.

Bob Paisley is due to retire at the end of the season and all the players will be sad to see him release the managerial reins.

But I'm pleased to say that he won't be disappearing out of the Anfield gates forever. Although nothing has been defined yet, it looks as though he'll be staying on at the club in some capacity.

Bob is a very unemotional man. The only time he'll give you a pat on the back is when you actually win something.

But I expect to see emotional scenes at our last home game with Aston Villa when the Anfield faithful wave goodbye to their hero.

And we'll be hoping to see Bob's reign out in style with a couple of good wins for the 'Old Master'.

● Graeme Souness was talking to Anthony Hawkswell.

MACARI'S PLEDGE

LOU Macari has pledged the rest of his English playing career to Manchester United.

At 33, the former Scottish international is set to sign a new contract at Old Trafford and he says: "When I finish with this club, I'll quit playing in the Football League."

"Manchester United are the only club for me. I couldn't do a job for anyone else — my heart just wouldn't be in it. My legs wouldn't run the same."

"After ten years here it would be difficult to imagine playing anywhere else," says Lou, who has spent most of the season sitting on the substitute's bench.

"One of the main reasons a lot of these big money transfers end up as flops is because they don't have their heart in their new club."

"After playing at one place for three or four years, it's difficult to suddenly transfer your allegiances to a new team."

Lou's contract was due to expire in July. He says: "Manager Ron Atkinson approached me before the Milk Cup Final against Liverpool and asked me what my plans were."

"I wanted to stay and he wanted to keep me on the payroll so we had no problems agreeing to sign

'MONEY CAN'T TEMPT ME FROM UNITED'

a new deal.

"Most players would have taken the opportunity of a big pay day by negotiating a lucrative contract with another club, but I couldn't do that. No amount of money could have tempted me away from United."

"Anyway the options weren't really that great for me. There is big money to be earned in Hong Kong or America but I wanted to stay here."

The final details of Lou's new contract have yet to be agreed, but he says: "I'll be staying at Old Trafford for at least another year."

"After that I don't know what will happen. At this stage of my career I can't look too far ahead."

Lou, who joined Manchester United from Celtic in January 1973

*Lou Macari —
"United are the
only club for me. I
couldn't do a job for
anyone else — my
heart just wouldn't
be in it. My legs
wouldn't run the
same."*



for £200,000, admits that in the long term he hopes to become a manager. He says: "I hope that's where my future lies."

"I want to play for as long as I can, but I'll be keeping my ears and eyes open looking for an opportunity in that direction."

"A lot of First Division managers are doing well at the moment and their jobs are safe. That may not be the case in 12 months' time and there aren't that many young bosses coming through."

Lou has always been a popular face at Old Trafford — he has twice been voted the Supporters Club 'Player of the Year' — and he says: "Playing for United has been one big high."

"There's never a dull moment here and that's part of the charisma of the place. It's certainly better than playing for a dull club where nothing ever happens."

"You learn to expect the unexpected at Old Trafford and plenty has gone on in my time here. Tommy Docherty, who signed me, won the FA Cup and was then sacked."

"Dave Sexton's job looked safe when we finished the 1980-81 season with nine straight wins on the trot, but he was also fired."

"Manchester United always demand success, which makes them the biggest football club in the country," says Lou, who was capped 24 times by Scotland.

Lou surprised many people when he turned his back on Liverpool and signed for United 10 years ago. He says: "I could have gone to Anfield and picked up a dozen medals."

"But there was the fear that it might not have worked out for me there. I could have failed and been back in Scotland within six months."

"I remember Emlyn Hughes asking then manager Bill Shankly why he hadn't signed me. 'Shanks' replied that he only wanted me for the reserve team. I thought that was strange."

Lou is happy to stay at United

even though he knows he isn't guaranteed a place in the first team, but he says: "You never know what's around the corner in football."

"Look at Ashley Grimes. Two months ago he wasn't in contention for a place in the first team squad and he ends up being our best player in the FA Cup Semi-Final win over Arsenal."

"I've enjoyed being involved this season although being sub so often does have its drawbacks. It takes a toll on your fitness."

"The game at Sunderland was my first full match for months and I was off the field within 15 minutes with a pulled muscle. If I'd been active every week, I'm sure that wouldn't have happened."

STEVE COPPELL SAYS:

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By Anthony Hawkswell

WEST Brom full-back Brendon Batson is left to pick up the pieces of a shattered career.

At the beginning of the season, the talented right-back was being tipped for an England cap ... now he admits: "I've got to start all over again."

Brendon has been out of action for six months with a cartilage injury — the normal recovery time is eight weeks — and he now faces a second operation on the troublesome right knee.

The 30-year-old knows that he won't kick a ball again this season and he's set himself a target of being fit when the West Brom players report for pre-season training after the summer break.

"It's a matter of proving myself again. It's going to be very difficult to get back into the first team. I'll have been out for nearly a year and that's a very long time in a footballer's life.

"The spotlight is going to be on me and I'm going to have to show I'm worthy of my place. No-one is going to pick me on my past record."

But Brendon is ready to face the biggest battle of his career. He says defiantly: "I never shirk a challenge and I'm determined to give this my best shot."

Brendon, who started his League career with Arsenal, admits that he was relieved when a Cambridge specialist inspected his knee and diagnosed another operation.

The nagging doubt that a serious injury may force him to quit was in the back of his mind and he says: "I went to the clinic in trepidation. I thought the specialist would tell me the worst there and then.

"He gave me the thumbs up and said that the knee needed another operation to tidy it up," adds Brendon, who joined Albion from

BATTING BRENDON STARTS AGAIN BATSON

Cambridge in February 1978.

Brendon last kicked a ball in League football on October 30 during West Brom's 6-1 drubbing at Ipswich. He says: "I was involved in an innocent challenge for the ball with Steve McCall.

"I had a cartilage injury 13 years ago and, as I fell to the ground at Portman Road, that awful feeling came flooding back to me. I feared the worst."

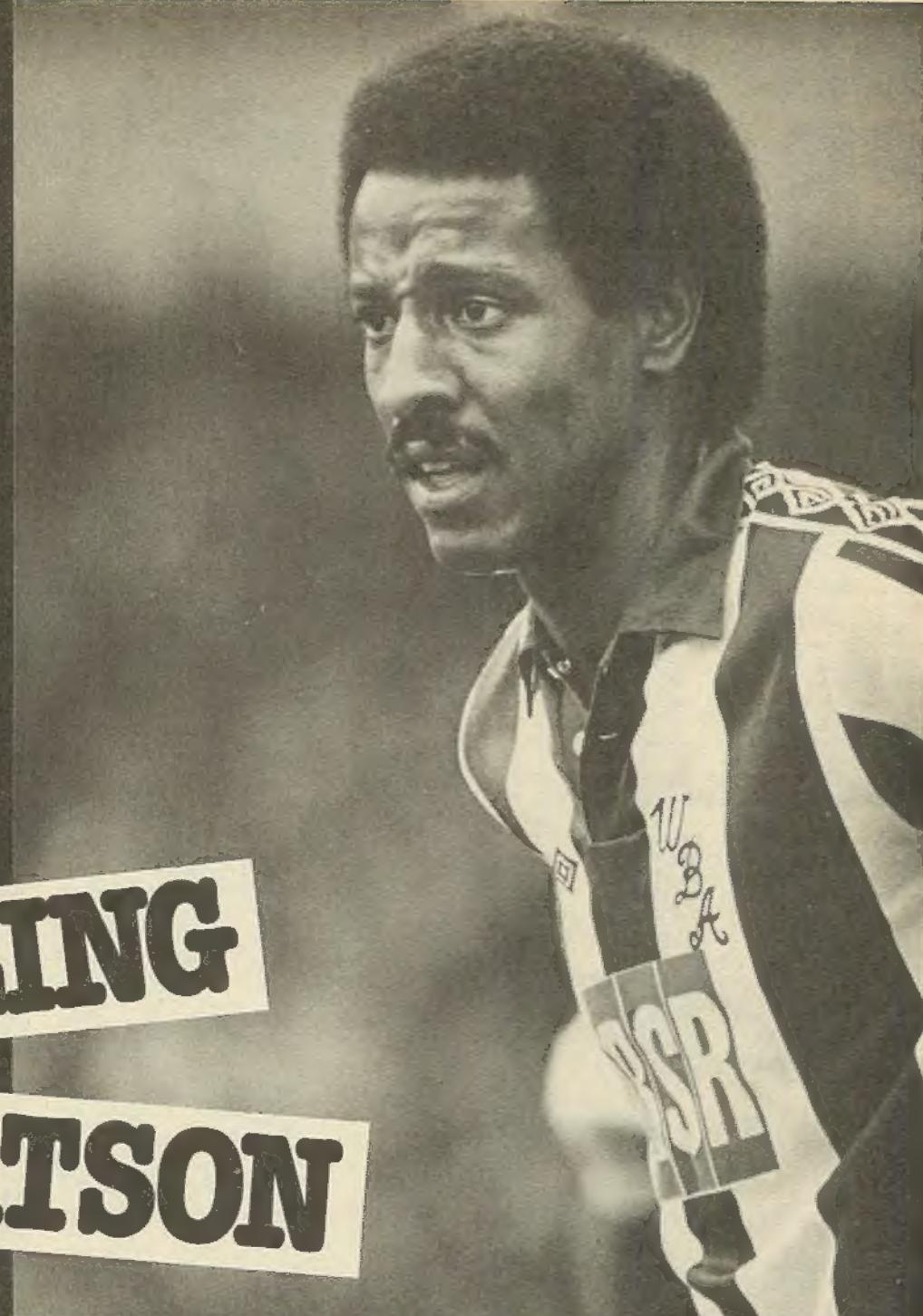
Six weeks after the operation, Brendon was convinced that something was drastically wrong.

"After nine weeks it was obvious the knee wasn't healing. Instead of feeling stronger every day, it was getting worse."

Brendon acknowledges the debt he owes to his family and friends during his long lay-off. He says: "They helped me look on the bright side of life. After all, I've got a happy marriage, two healthy kids and have lots to look forward to."

"I must admit in my quieter moments it got me down. A footballer's life revolves around the game and there's nothing worse than not being involved."

Unable to train with the rest of the West Brom players, Brendon has been going down to the local gym where he's been trying to



West Brom's Brendon Batson — out until next season.

keep the rest of his body in shape during the long lay-off.

"I can't run so it's been a matter of doing exercises to keep my leg muscles up to scratch."

It's been a dismal season for both Brendon and his club. He says: "This campaign has been a total write-off as far as I'm concerned.

"The club have suffered a very disappointing season as well. Before the big kick-off, there were real hopes that we could achieve something."

"But we have flattered to deceive. We got ourselves in a great position to do something — we were fifth in the First Division at one stage — but once again we let things slip."

"I don't know why we fail to realise our potential — if I did I'd be a manager!"

"The potential here is as good as at any club in the country. We've got good youngsters like Nicky Cross coming through and players like Garry Thompson, Derek Statham and Martyn Bennett are still in their early twenties."

"Perhaps we don't have the conviction to succeed. We always seem to fall at the last hurdle," adds Brendon.

"West Brom can't really look back on this season with any satisfaction. When we were up near the top of the table, we thought the hard work had been done."

"Last season we got more satisfaction. At least at the end of the day we reached two semi-finals and beat relegation."

But the future looks bright at The Hawthorns following manager Ron Wylie's successful attempts to keep star players like Cyrille Regis and midfielder Gary Owen.

"The fact that most of the players have signed contracts means that everyone is happy at the club and the manager can lay down foundations for the future."

"He knows the players won't be leaving and he doesn't have to worry about buying players."

"But my only thought now is getting myself fit. At least I don't have to rush. I've got plenty of time before the start of next season."

NO WAY BACK FOR WATSON

FORMER England defender Dave Watson reluctantly turns his back on Stoke at the end of the season.

Dave, who was capped 65 times by his country, joins former Ipswich and Holland ace Frans Thijssen when he flies off to Canada to play for Vancouver Whitecaps.

But the former Manchester City and Southampton stalwart admits: "I'd have loved to have returned to Stoke next season.

"Unfortunately there is a Football League ruling which states that a player who goes to the States can't return to his old club in England within 12 months.

"It's annoying but that means I'll be playing for another club in England next season. I hope to have a deal fixed up before I fly out," says Dave.

"The decision to leave Stoke was a difficult one because I've enjoyed a fabulous spell at The Victoria Ground.

"I was in the doldrums at Southampton and hadn't played in the first team for three months. Stoke gave me a new lease of life," says Dave, who cost the club £50,000 18 months ago.

Stoke star must find new club

"I'm going to North America because I don't feel I can afford to take a break during the close season. At my age — 36 — I need to keep in trim and ticking over.

"I feel very good now but if I had a long lay-off, I might have found it difficult to get back. America is the only place that can provide me with competitive football during the summer."

When Dave joined Stoke they were fighting a desperate battle against relegation, but this season they've gone through a transformation and are poised to qualify for a place in Europe.

"I'd love to help Stoke get into Europe. It would be a great way to leave the club," says Dave, who started his League career at Rotherham and picked up an FA Cup winners' medal in 1973 with Sunderland.

"I'm looking forward to playing in the North American Soccer League because it will be a completely new experience for me. I don't know what to expect."

Stoke star Dave Watson bound for Vancouver Whitecaps.



MATCH CHAT

Compiled by Melvyn Beck

NEV STANDS FIRM

WELSH International Nev Southall is determined to win back his place at Everton from Jim Arnold.

The former Bury goalkeeper has been out of the limelight at Goodison Park since early November when injury forced him on the sidelines.

Since then, Nev has spent a period on loan to Fourth Division Port Vale, but he's now back on Merseyside battling to oust Jim from the number one spot.

"I've come a very long way in the last couple of years," says Nev, whose contract expires at the end of next season.

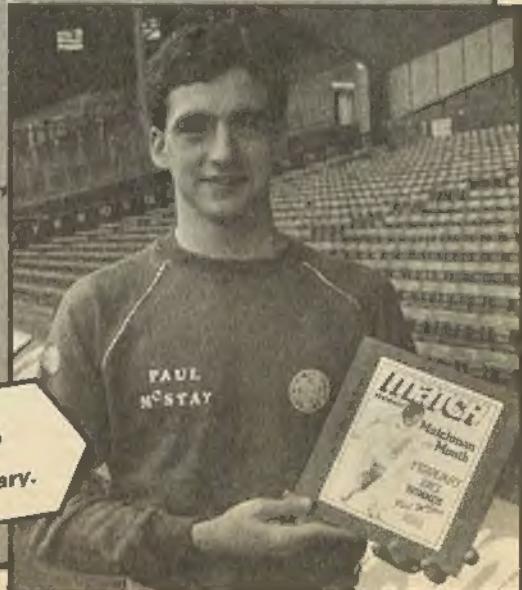
"From working on a building site to playing First Division and international football — it's all been like a dream come true, until the last couple of months, that is.

"I had to go into hospital following the 5-0 home defeat by Liverpool and haven't

been able to get back into the side since. Jim stepped in and played so well that there was no realistic chance of me getting a quick recall.

"That's why I went on loan to Port Vale. Recently there was some talk of Sheffield United being interested in me, but manager Howard Kendall assured me there was nothing in it.

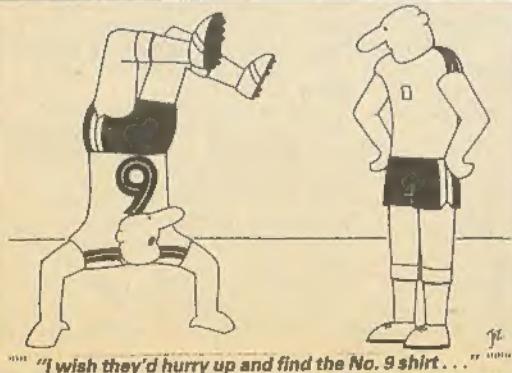
"I'm glad there wasn't because despite what's happened this season, Goodison is where I really want my first team future to be."



■ THE four-nation semi-professional tournament takes place at Scarborough between May 31 and June 4. The competition involves Holland, Scotland, England and Italy. Fixtures:

Tuesday, May 31 — Holland v Scotland (6.00 pm), England v Italy (8.00); Wednesday, June 2 — Italy v Scotland (6.00), England v Holland (8.00); Thursday, June 4 — Italy v Holland (1.00), England v Scotland (3.00).

CELTIC'S Paul McStay is a winner with the fans... and with 'Match'. Paul is seen here with the Scottish Premier Division 'Matchman of the Month' award for February.



"I wish they'd hurry up and find the No. 9 shirt..."

SACRIFICE PAYS OFF FOR SCOT

NINETEEN-year-old John McGiffen turned his back on the chance to play for the Central Scotland Under-21 side in order to defend his Subbuteo title!

And he proved he made the right decision by beating Barry Seaton 4-0 in the final of the 1983 Scottish National Championships.

Says John: "I was very, very disappointed to miss the Under-21 game but the Match Weekly/Subbuteo finals had to come first. I was defending my title for the first time."

"I've still got another chance of being selected for Central Scotland but I only get one chance to be Scottish Subbuteo champion."

"I'm delighted to have regained my title and I'm looking forward to the Home Internationals and trying to beat the English again."

Twenty-four youngsters from as far away as Aberdeen took part in the Scottish Finals, which were held at Hampden Park — home of Scottish football — and produced some exciting action for the spectators, who included Scotland manager Jock Stein.

And Jock was treated to a tense penalty shoot-out in the junior final which saw Bobbie Goldie of Coatbridge beat William Cumming of Airdrie.

Both senior winner John and



junior champion Bobbie will now represent Scotland in the Home International Championships and Subbuteo's Scottish National Organiser, Bob McGiffen — John's father — is confident of victory.

Says Bob: "I've looked at most of the English boys and saw the Welsh lads last year. I can honestly say I fancy Scotland's chances."

"We've got several good players who work hard, practise and play well and of course they love the game. All we need now is a little luck!"

JIM RINGS UP IRISH VICTORY

TRAINEE supermarket manager Jim Skelley went home with the goods when he won the senior competition at the Northern Ireland Finals for the second year running.

Eighteen-year-old Jim of Rathcoole, Newtonabbey, beat Andrew Henry 2-0 in the final. Meanwhile, a goal just three seconds from time gave

15-year-old Brian Cairns victory in the junior contest. Brian, of Ballyduff, Co. Antrim, beat Michael Traynor 2-1 in the final.

The full list of competitors in the Irish finals, staged in the plush surroundings of the Penthouse Suite at Belfast's Forum Hotel, was as follows:

SENIORS — A. Henry (losing finalist), T. McKinney, G. Cummings, K. Beggs (losing semi-finalist) J. Skelley (winner), J. McIlveen, T. Armstrong (losing semi-finalist), D. Clegg.

JUNIORS — M. Traynor (losing finalist), J. McDonald, R. Rainey, J. Healey, W. Lawlor (losing semi-finalist), D. McLoughlin, S. Blair, J. Cairns, S. McIlroy, J. Fleming (losing semi-finalist), B. Greene, M. Taylor, G. Elliott, K. Davison, K. Greene, B. Cairns (winner).



Above: Scottish senior champion John McGiffen showing the style which earned him victory in the final. And (inset), John with his trophy.

SUBBUTEO SUPERSTARS CLASH AT WEMBLEY

WE'RE on our way to Wembley!

The players of FA Cup finalists Brighton and Manchester United aren't the only ones preparing for a big day in the shadow of the famous twin towers.

On Sunday, the Wembley Conference Centre is the venue for the prestigious English National Finals of the 1983 Match Weekly/Subbuteo Championships.

Sixteen competitors from all over the country have qualified for the finals through a series of regional competitions. And what a weekend they have in store ...

Players and officials arrive at the plush Wembley Crest Hotel on the Saturday morning and are then taken on a super tour of Wembley Stadium.

Lunch will be served in the Stadium's banqueting hall and each player receives a Wembley souvenir package.

Then they can settle down to watch the main event of the day — the FA Vase Final between Halesowen and V.S. Rugby.

In the evening, competitors will be treated to a sightseeing tour of London and dinner at a city restaurant.

The run-down for Sunday — the day of the Match Weekly/Subbuteo Finals — is as follows:

8.00-10.00am — Breakfast, Wembley Crest.

10.15am — Depart for Conference Centre.

10.30am — Players and officials assemble at the Centre.

11.00 — The big kick-off!

1.00-1.30pm — Lunch.

1.30-4.00pm — Play continues.

4.00pm — Presentation of prizes.

Who are the likely winners? Well, here's a list of the competitors ...

Looking to make it a family double are two sets of brothers — David and

THE senior and junior winners from each of the four national finals — England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland — will go on to represent their countries in the Match Weekly/Subbuteo Home International Championships which take place at Filey between May 28-30. (The results of the Welsh National Finals will be published in next week's issue).

Peter Matthews of Cheltenham, Glos, and Sean and Lee Copeland of Tring, Herts.

David (19) and Sean (17) — a semi-finalist last year — compete in the senior section while Peter and Lee, both 15 years-of-age, compete for the junior honours.

Other competitors in the senior section include: Pat Clarke (22) of Chorlton, Manchester; Michael Parnaby (17) of Stockesley, Middlesbrough; Andrew Boyer (17) of Boston, Lincolnshire, who is champion of the Boston Grammar School League; Chris Nance (19) of Portsmouth and a finalist last year; Steven Worthington (19) of Little Lever, Bolton, and also a finalist last year; and Graeme Jones (17) of Hadleigh, Suffolk, who is the Hadleigh United senior champion and who also acted as a referee during the Subbuteo World Cup in Spain last year — at 16, the youngest of all the officials 'in the middle'.

The three other competitors in the junior section are: Peter Ellingham of Hadleigh, Suffolk — also representing Hadleigh United; David Pinner of Burton-on-Trent; and Michael Wadsworth of Leeds. All four competitors in the junior section are aged 15.

It should all make for quite a show — so why not go along?

'I dreamed of being a Cup Final 'keeper'

— Graham Moseley

BRIGHTON goalkeeper Graham Moseley wouldn't swap his Wembley ticket for anything — not even a guaranteed place in the First Division next season.

That's how much an FA Cup Final appearance means to the 29-year-old hero of Highbury, who was deprived of Wembley glory six years ago when Derby lost to Manchester United in the Semi-Finals.

"I dreamed of playing in a Cup Final at Wembley right from the time when I was big enough to kick a ball around in a local park," he says.

"As a kid I used to pretend I was a Cup Final goalkeeper and it would be nice to think of youngsters doing the same when I'm there."

"But I thought the chance would never come because you don't expect clubs like Brighton to reach Wembley."

"Now we are there, I intend to enjoy myself — win or lose — and I wouldn't swap it for anything, not even a place in the First Division next season."

"It's much harder to reach Wembley than achieve promotion from the Second Division, and, if we do go down, then I believe we

are more than capable of bouncing straight back."

It was Graham's two breathtaking saves in the dying minutes against Sheffield Wednesday that took Brighton to Wembley for the first time in their history.

He left Highbury to a standing ovation — a hero just two years after being an outcast.

His future at Brighton was in doubt when manager Alan Mullery paid £150,000 for Fulham's Perry Digweed in January 1981.

"I knew Brighton hadn't paid that money to play Perry in the reserves, and I certainly didn't fancy playing second fiddle," says Graham.

"I suppose if Alan Mullery had stayed much longer I would have

been on my way, but when Mike Bailey came in, it was a straight fight between the two of us, and fortunately I have proved that I am worthy of the number one tag."

"Those two saves against Wednesday were obviously the most important of my life. The first from Mike Lyons' header was just instinctive and to be honest I thought it was going in."

"I saw Pat Heard's volley all the way, but I was beaten from a similar distance at West Ham recently. On this occasion I managed to get back to push the ball over."

"My feelings when the final whistle went were a mixture of jubilation and relief. We expected to win but it was a real relief when we realised we had actually made it to Wembley."

"I had a feeling it was going to be our year after our victory at Liverpool in the Fifth Round."

"People say that your name is written on the Cup at the start of the season, and, after knocking out the favourites at Anfield, I wouldn't argue with that."

"But whatever the result, Brighton's name will be on the map and I will have realised my Wembley dream."



Hero —
Graham Moseley.

UNLIKELY HEROES

Spotlight on the two unlikely heroes of the FA Cup Semi-Finals . . .

'It was my make or break game'

— Ashley Grimes

JUST six months ago Ashley Grimes was in disgrace. Now he's the hero of Manchester United.

The Eire international was sent off during United's 3-1 defeat at West Ham in October for appearing to strike the referee. He was subsequently suspended and fined.

But the curly-haired midfielder — known as 'Spider' to his team-mates — has bounced back and was one of the stars in United's FA Cup Semi-Final win over Arsenal at Villa Park.

Ashley was called into the squad at the last moment when Dutch midfielder Arnold Muhren was ruled out through injury.

"It was a make or break game for me and I was determined to make the most of the opportunity," says the wiry midfielder.

"When I was sent off against West Ham I thought I had blown my chances of getting back in the side, so I was delighted to be picked for the Semi-Final."

"I had only played a couple of games since that time and only the week before I turned out for United's 'A' team for a game against Everton."

"It wasn't until the Thursday before the Semi-Final that I knew I would be playing. I had an inclination that I might be involved in some way, possibly as substitute, but never thought I would get a full game."

"I was a little bit nervous before the match because it was such a

big occasion and I didn't want to let anybody down . . . but it turned out well and I was really pleased with my performance."

Ashley was constantly involved in the action and it was his telling pass that set up the equaliser for skipper Bryan Robson just ten minutes into the second half.

"The ball broke loose to me on the left and I saw Bryan make a run through the middle, I chipped the ball in to him and he chested it down and slotted it home."

"From then on we knew we could tear Arsenal apart and there was no way we would be beaten. Even at half-time when we were a goal down, all the lads were confident we would pull it back."

"And when Norman hit the second goal with a beautiful volley it was one-way traffic . . . we could have had three or four more goals after that and Arsenal never

looked like getting back into the game."

"It was a great occasion and now I'm just keeping my fingers crossed that I can keep my place in the side and play in the Final — that's always been my ambition."

"I've missed out on the last three occasions when we've been to Wembley — twice in the FA Cup and once in the Milk Cup — and I would love to be involved this year against Brighton."

"Everyone keeps saying that Brighton's name is on the Cup, but obviously we don't agree and we're determined to make up for the Milk Cup Final defeat by Liverpool a few weeks ago."

"I've never had the best of luck so far during my career and it's been a struggle to command a place in the side, but maybe the Semi-Final against Arsenal was the turning point."



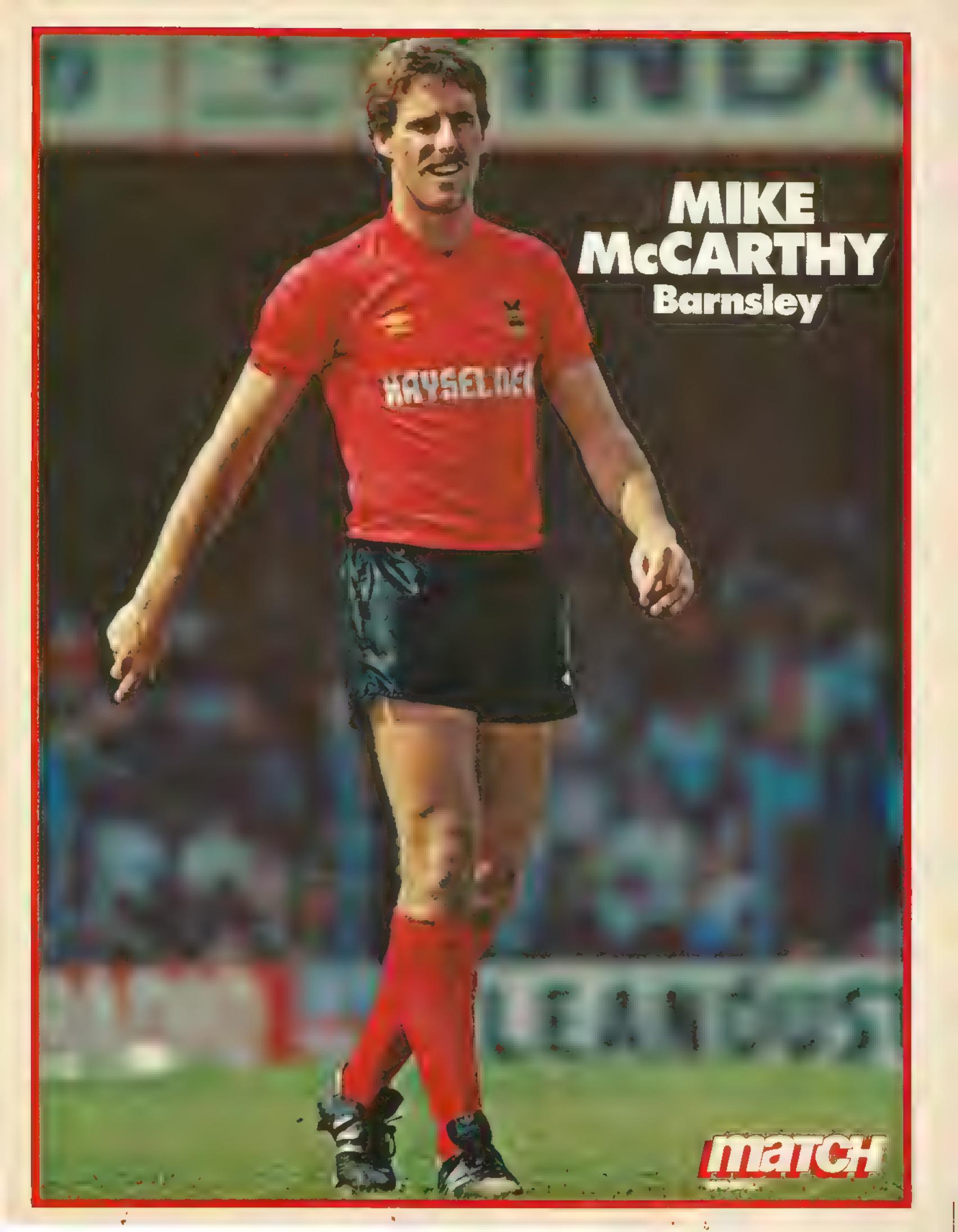
Hero —
Ashley Grimes.

match
weekly



ROMEO ZONDERVAN

WEST BROM



**MIKE
McCARTHY**
Barnsley

match

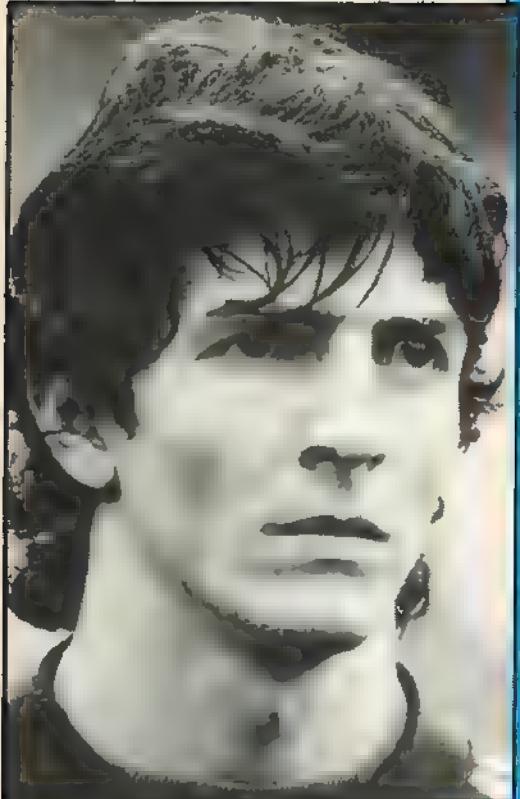
Ajax win fight for Vanenburg

EASTER Sunday was a happy day for Ajax. That was when Gerald Vanenburg, one of the young starlets Tottenham's Keith Burkinshaw admired so much in last summer's Amsterdam tournament, signed a new contract for three years.

That put an end to overtures from both Inter and AC Milan, plus many others. The young midfielder, who has already worn the orange shirt in the full Dutch national side, said it all.

"I've always been an Ajax kid and I've never thought of leaving them. I had no problems putting pen to paper for three years, plus an option for a fourth year. I love this club and all they have done for me."

On a realistic front chairman Ton Harmsen said: "So long as Gerald is happy to stay, so he will. He is just 19, so he still has all the time in the world to get better. But to us he's already a first-class star."



Paolo Rossi — the soccer star with a heart of gold.

HANS Krankl has been named Austrian 'Footballer of the Year' — claiming almost one third of the total votes. He last won the accolade in 1976.

WEST German sweeper Uli Stielike is set to sign a new two year contract with Spanish giants Real Madrid.

He says: "I am very happy here despite an attractive offer from Inter Milan. Real have looked after me very well."

Cruyff calls for cup change

HOLLAND have got it all wrong by playing their national cup on a two-legged basis. Who says so? None other than Holland's King of football, Johan Cruyff.

Says Johan: "I do appreciate clubs can sometimes pick up a little money to help them on a two-match basis, but I think it is bad for football."

"For me the English system is so much better. One game, followed by a replay if the result is a draw. What matters most is that every team knows the first game is all-important. And that encourages everyone

to go out and play attacking football."

LIECHTENSTEIN — yes, you might well ask who? — travelled to Holland recently for an Olympic qualifying game against Holland.

They lost 3-1, but their "supporters club" went away happy. You see just one supporter travelled by train into Holland.

At half-time he knocked on the changing-room door, was invited in and for the rest of the game, Max Nupp had a coach's view of the game sitting next to national coach Hans Munterer in the Leichtenstein dugout.



PAOLO'S HEART OF GOLD

■ ITALIAN SOCCER STAR PAOLO ROSSI stopped through the letter-box of Paolo Rossi's home. The sender was 13-year-old Yugoslavian footballer Jelinka Zivotic — Paolo's number one fan — in the World Cup Final — and each week Jelinka has admired the Juventus star.

Suddenly, the letter stopped coming. Europe's 'Footballer of the Year' took the time and trouble to make a telephone call to his hospital.

Madeira, where Paolo Rossi's parents were having problems raising the cash. Paolo issued simple instructions: "Call the operation and send me the bill."

The operation was a success and Paolo sent a bill which friends in Italy suggested should be something like £25,000.

For once in his young star career, the Italian ace won't be the World Cup's top-scorer. But this

Pim's still number one

■ SPANISH GOALKEEPER Pim Doesburg is still the best in the world, according to his boots. Seems to be a growing trend in football for goalkeepers. West's Eddie Jones signed a new contract with Holland's Pim Doesburg of PSV. And this is the keeper who thought his days were over in the top division.

HOW THEY STAND IN EUROPE

ITALY

● There were no games in the Italian First Division due to Cup commitments.

TOP OF DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AC Milan	28	14	12	2	58	26	40
Lazio	28	12	13	3	32	16	37
Como	28	9	15	4	25	18	33

Leading scorers: Giordano (Lazio) 13; Jordan (Milan), Vincenzi (Pistoiese) 10.

W. GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hamburg	26	14	10	2	59	25	38
Werder Bremen	26	16	8	5	49	30	37
Bayern Munich	26	14	8	4	59	21	36
Stuttgart	25	15	5	5	61	33	35
B. Dortmund	26	15	4	7	61	38	34
Cologne	26	13	7	6	54	30	33
Kaiserslautern	26	11	10	5	44	33	32
Nuremberg	26	8	6	11	55	51	24
Frankfurt	26	10	3	13	36	37	23
Brunswick	26	7	8	10	30	41	23
Bochum	26	7	8	11	38	32	
Dusseldorf	28	7	8	11	41	61	22
Bielefeld	25	8	5	12	34	54	21
B. Gladbach	26	8	2	15	46	47	20
Leverkusen	25	6	8	13	29	51	18
Schalke 04	26	4	8	18	34	57	14
Karlsruhe	26	4	8	16	30	71	14

Leading scorers: Rummenigge (Bayern) 17; Burgsmuller (Dortmund); Voeller (Werder Bremen) 15; Littbarski (Cologne); Allgoewer (Stuttgart) 14.

SPAIN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid	31	18	9	4	52	23	45
Ath Bilbao	31	19	6	6	61	33	44
Barcelona	31	16	10	5	51	23	42
At. Madrid	31	17	6	8	47	35	40
Zaragoza	31	16	6	9	55	34	38
Seville	31	12	12	7	37	29	36
Real Sociedad	31	11	12	8	27	24	34
Gijon	31	8	15	9	26	27	31
Betis	31	9	11	11	39	38	29
Salamanca	31	10	8	13	27	39	28
Espanol	31	11	6	14	40	43	28
Malaga	31	9	10	12	35	42	28
Las Palmas	31	7	11	13	29	40	25
Valladolid	31	7	10	14	27	49	24
Osasuna	31	8	6	17	33	51	22
Celta	31	8	6	17	23	48	22
Valencia	31	7	7	18	36	52	21
Santander	31	8	5	18	41	57	21

Leading scorers: Rincon (Betis) 19; Amerilla (Zaragoza) 17; Valdano (Zaragoza) 16; Hugo Sanchez (At. Madrid); Dani (Ath. Bilbao) 14.

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	28	21	5	2	80	28	47
Feyenoord	28	19	8	1	80	30	46
PSV Eindhoven	28	17	9	2	80	29	43
Haarlem	28	12	7	9	36	37	31
Groningen	28	8	14	6	51	42	30
Sparta	28	9	12	7	51	42	30
Roda	28	11	7	10	45	42	29
Sittard	28	10	9	9	32	33	29
Excelsior	28	11	6	11	38	36	28
Utrecht	28	9	9	10	41	44	27
AZ67	28	10	6	12	37	28	26
Helmond Sp.	28	8	8	12	37	54	24
Go Ahead	28	6	9	13	32	54	21
Willem II	28	6	7	15	36	45	19
PEC Zwolle	28	6	7	15	35	52	19
NAC Breda	28	5	9	14	26	61	19
Twente	28	4	10	14	27	49	18
NEC Nijmegen	28	3	12	13	25	51	18

Leading scorers: Houtman (Feyenoord) 23; Koolhof (PSV) 20; Thoresen (PSV) 19

SHEFFIELD Wednesday defender Ian Bailey talked this week of his double agony.

In the space of just seven days, the left-back was stretchered off with a broken leg... and then watched his team's dream of an FA Cup Final place at Wembley die.

"It was a big disappointment," says Ian: "A broken leg is the injury every player dreads and to happen on the eve of your first ever FA Cup Semi-Final is really unlucky."

Ian fractured the tibia in his left leg during Wednesday's last game before the big clash with Brighton at Highbury.

The Second Division match at Burnden Park was just 37 minutes old when Ian collided with Bolton striker Ian Moores.

He remembers, "Our goalkeeper Bob Bolder rolled the ball out to me and I was just about to knock it down the line when Ian came in with a block tackle. I caught the full weight of him on my leg."

"I knew something had gone and, when the physio asked me to move my toes, I couldn't even feel them. The whole leg had gone numb."

Ian is quick to clear former Stoke and Spurs star Ian Moores of any blame. "It was a pure accident and just one of those things which happen in football."

He's also putting a brave face on the worst injury of his career and is determined to look on the bright side. He says, "It could have been much worse."

"It's a clean break and I haven't suffered any pain or complications. I saw the X-ray and it looks as if someone has drawn a line across the bone."

"The normal recovery time is usually 12 weeks so I'm hoping to start light training in July and to be fully fit for the start of the new campaign."

It is the second time this season that Ian has been taken off the field on a stretcher. On the last occasion, he thought he'd broken his back.

That was in January at Hillsborough when he was caught on the spinal cord by a Charlton defender. It caused him to miss Wednesday's first FA Cup match against Southend and the subsequent replay.

"Fortunately the specialist found nothing seriously

IAN BAILEY'S DOUBLE DISASTER

wrong, but it was a very worrying time for me. I don't often get injured, but when I do I don't do things by halves!"

Missing Wednesday's biggest game of the season was the price Ian had to pay for his latest injury and he says: "Losing to Brighton was a big blow because everyone was so confident."

"Despite injury doubts about skipper Mike Lyons, Gary Megson and David Mills, the build-up to the Brighton game was marvellous.

"There was a magnificent spirit within the squad and the lads left for London in just the right frame of mind. I couldn't see us getting beaten."

"But we are basically a young side and I think nerves played a big part in our performance. Brighton are much more experienced — especially in midfield with the likes of Jimmy Case and Tony Greathouse."

"If we had stuck to our normal one-touch style, we could have played them off the park. Instead we kept getting caught in possession."

"Our Highbury dressing room after the game was

like a morgue. I felt sorry for the younger players in the side who'd never experienced anything like it before."

"But at least they've got time on their side and may get another chance of playing in an FA Cup Final at Wembley. The same may not be true for Andy McCulloch and Mike Lyons who are nearing the end of their careers."

There was also sympathy for manager Jack Charlton. Ian says: "Although he tried to play down our FA Cup exploits, I could see he was very disappointed. He didn't say much but you only had to look at him."

There has been speculation this season that 'Big Jack' may soon decide to call it a day and quit as manager of Wednesday, but Ian hopes the club's progress in the FA Cup this season will persuade the popular manager to stay.

"I'm sure I speak for the majority of the players when I say I don't want him to go. I know the fans feel that way."

"The fact that we reached the Semi-Finals might bring it home to him what a good side he's gathered here. The squad has enough strength in depth to win promotion to the First Division."

Ian is in his second spell under the wing of Jack Charlton. The pair worked together at Middlesbrough, although the 26-year-old admits: "I never thought he rated me"

BY ANTHONY HAWKSWELL

"When we were together at Ayresome Park, he always seemed to be having a go at me. I couldn't believe it when he wanted to sign me for Wednesday."

Ian joined the Yorkshire giants in the close season after an unhappy term at Middlesbrough and he says: "I would rather have quit football than stay there."

"In the end, I didn't want to play for them because I felt they had treated me badly. I never knew where I stood with them."

"My contract came to an end in the close season but if they had offered me double wages, I wouldn't have signed a new deal!"

Ian's problems started before a ball had been kicked last season following the signing of Ian Bolton from Sunderland. Ian says: "I thought then I'd be on the move."

"But manager Bobby Murdoch explained that he wanted to try me in midfield. I was quite happy with that and he promised to play me in that role for all our pre-season games."

"I played just two halves in that role and when the season did kick off, I found myself in the reserves."

Ian thought he'd got his wish to leave when Bolton signed him on two months' loan with the view to a permanent transfer, but he explains: "Middlesbrough wanted £80,000 at first but I did quite well at Burnden Park and, after every game, the price seemed to go up."

"In the end, I went back to the North East and was a regular in the side, but I was never happy."

"I had no hesitation in joining Wednesday. As a club they are on a par with Liverpool and Manchester United. If they were in the First Division, they'd be even bigger."

Left: The pain! Ian grimaces following the tackle which left him with a broken leg. It caused him to miss the FA Cup Semi-Final against Brighton but he says: "If we'd stuck to our normal one-touch style we could have played them off the park."



STAR GALLERY

"I think Spurs' Glenn Hoddle (left) deserves a place in 'Star Gallery' because he is one of England's most promising young midfield players," says Tony Hadjimichael of Magdala Avenue, London.

Eleven year-old Roger Salmon of Cheadle, Manchester, believes Manchester City's David Cross (below) is a very good forward.



DRAW a picture of your favourite footballer and you could win a fabulous soccer card game!

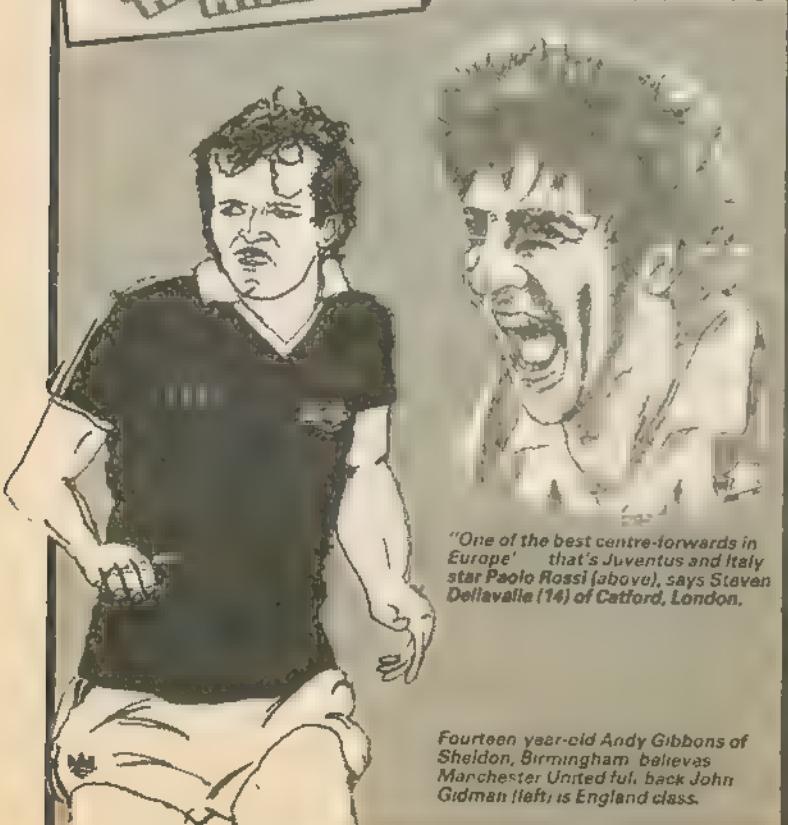
'Big League' is an exciting new game normally played by 2-6 people - the object being to form a team of 11 players.

But you can also amuse yourself by playing 'Big League' patience.

It's a game approved by the Football League and all you have to do is stand a chance of winning one is send in your drawing together with a sentence saying why your chosen player deserves a place in 'Star Gallery'.

The sender of each drawing published is a winner!

Write to: 'Star Gallery', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.



"One of the best centre-forwards in Europe" - that's Juventus and Italy star Paolo Rossi (above), says Steven Dellevalle (14) of Catford, London.

Fourteen year-old Andy Gibbons of Sheldon, Birmingham, believes Manchester United full-back John Gidman (left) is England class.



STOP THE ACTION

Can you name the two teams, and the three players involved in this goalmouth incident?

TRANSFER TRAIL

RIGHT are the names of six players who have changed clubs this season. Can you name their new teams and the clubs they were obtained from?

- 1 Alan Curbishley
- 2 Dave Swindleshurst
- 3 Frank Worthington
- 4 David Mills
- 5 Terry Connor
- 6 Billy Kellock



Mystery man

CAN you identify our mystery personality who's busy at home with a spot of woodwork?

The only clue we'll give you is that he plays for a London club in the Second Division.

The answer to last week's 'Masked Man' competition was Brighton's Michael Robinson.

QUIZ

1. Which player scored a hat-trick on his England debut against Luxembourg?
2. Which three clubs were promoted from Division Two last season?
3. Where do Brighton play their home games?
4. Who scored Liverpool's winning goal in the Milk Cup final against Manchester United?
5. Which Italian team knocked Aston Villa out of the European Cup?
6. Who is the manager of Third Division Newport?

Match 'em up

CAN you match the teams on the left with their correct grounds?

1 Huddersfield	a) Carrow Road
2 Leicester	b) Elland Road
3 Norwich	c) Filbert Street
4 Bournemouth	d) Leeds Road
5 Leeds	e) Dean Court

Clickety-click!

Win a super Ricoh camera

WIN a super Ricoh camera worth £40... FREE!

Ricoh, the company who sponsor First Division Stoke City, are also offering ten runners-up prizes of their specially designed T-shirts.

The semi-automatic camera makes picture taking a real snap. It has a quick charge electronic flash with ready indicator, instant LED exposure setting checks, super simple focusing, rewind lever and shutter release operation.

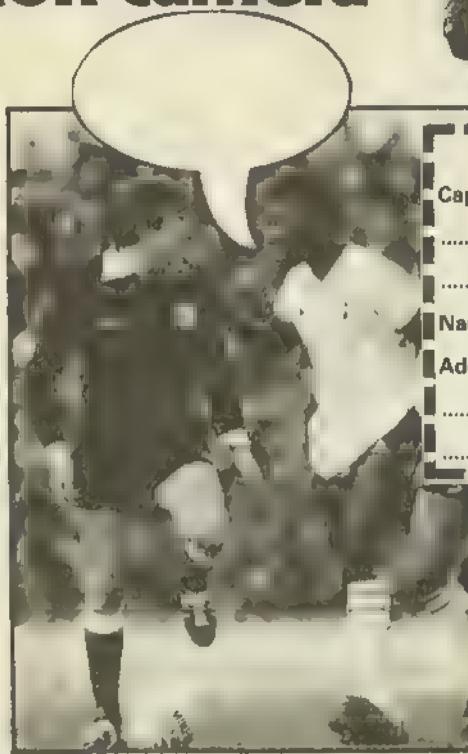
How to enter: Look at the picture (right) which shows Spurs striker Garth Crooks explaining something to the referee.

All you have to do is think up something funny that Garth might be saying.

The sender of what is judged to be the funniest caption — in not more than 12 words — will win the camera, and the next ten best entries will collect the T-shirts.

Write your caption on the entry form opposite, together with your name, age, address and chest size (small, medium or large). In case you are one of the ten runners-up, then send it off to: Ricoh Competition, Match Weekly, 14 Holkham Road, Orton Southgate, Peterborough PE2 0UF.

Entries must reach us by Friday, May 6 and the results will be announced in our May 21 issue.



ENTRY FORM

Caption.....

Name.....

Address.....

Chest S/M/L.....

Player muddle

Can you unravel the jumbled up letters below to reveal the name of a Scottish international defender?

RATHBRU BONALIST

SOLUTIONS

Collin Addison
Goldsstone Ground; 4. Ronni Whalen; 5. Juvetus; 6.
Hayes; 7. Luther Blissett; 8. Darren Bent; 9. Mark
Burdges; 10. David; 11. Steve; 12. Kevin; 13. Lefty; 14.
Downs; 15. Brazil; 16. Drogba; 17. Skills; 18.
Freddies (Shelfield United); 19. South; 20. United; 21. Dennis; 22. Billie; 23. Ross; 24. Dennis
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DOWN

- Pat Jennings has big ones (5)
- 'God heard' (anagram) — and created this League of Ireland club (8)
- Beats a player by putting the ball between his legs (7)
- He was the scoring runner-up to Tommy

6. Day is one and so is Knight! (6)
7. Players do this when they want the ball (5)
13. A No. 6! (4-4)
14. The home town of 10 across (8)
15. An alternative name for 18 across (7)
16. 'Be a Mr Bl!' (anagram) — he's the chairman of B-Brighton (6)
17. An alternative word for 22 across (5)
20. The non-League club which supplied Cyrille Regis to West Bromwich Albion (5)

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Joe's judgement

JOE Royle believes he has a squad of players capable of holding its own in the top flight, and here he talks individually about the men who could bring First Division football to Boundary Park for the first time since 1923...

ANDREW GORAM (goalkeeper): He's been an absolute revelation this season. He was thrown in at the deep end, but did a tremendous job and has gone from strength to strength, so much so that he's already made the England Under-21 squad. I believe he is one of the best young 'keepers in the country.

NICK SINCLAIR (full-back): He has been very unlucky with injury during his short career and he's out with torn knee ligaments at the moment. But when fit, Nick is a very smooth-running player with lots of stamina and is a vital cog in the works. We should see the best of him next season.

JOHN RYAN (full-back): Another of our talented, young players who has just made the England Under-21 squad. He has so much confidence on the ball and loves to push forward from his left-back position... he's already scored about ten goals this season. I put him in the same class as England's Derek Statham and Kenny Sansom.

KENNY CLEMENTS (centre-back, captain): A true professional and a marvellous player to have in your side... I wouldn't swap him for any other defender in the country. He has been very consistent this year and was recently made club captain. He leads by example and is respected by all the players.

GARY HOOLICKIN (centre-back): Another player who has been badly hit by injuries this season. He is very versatile and has played at centre-back, full-back and in midfield for us. He is at his best playing alongside Kenny Clements and has been a perfect replacement for Paul Fletcher, who we recently sold to Derby.

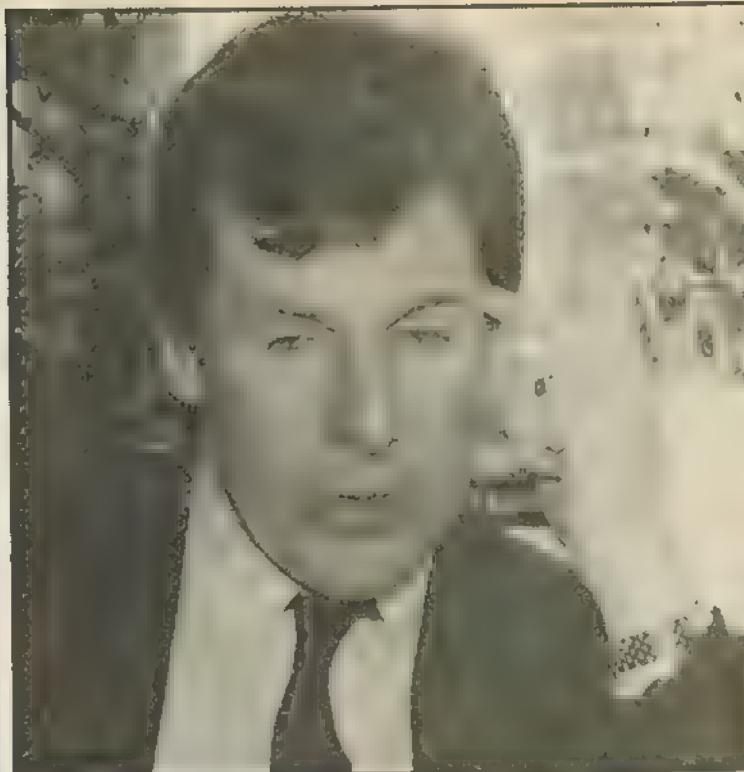
PAUL HEATON (midfield): A very talented player who made the England Under-21 squad last year. He's given us a lot of balance on the right-hand side of midfield, but has been out of the side for the last few months following an operation on his left knee. When fully fit, he's a very potent player for us.

ROGER PALMER (midfield): He started his career as an out-and-out striker, but we have pulled him back into midfield from which position he has scored a number of goals. He is very quick and a clinical finisher... probably our most consistent player this season.

GED KEEGAN (midfield): One of four former Manchester City players at the club, whose First Division experience has been invaluable to us. A very busy player, who will always give 100 per cent... a key man in midfield.

TONY HENRY (midfield): My only signing to date and, at £15,000, a real bargain. A classy player, who not only creates goals from midfield but can score them as well. He can play anywhere on the park and, once he settles in at the club, will be a great asset.

JOHN BOWDEN (midfield): He was a striker when I took over at the club but, due to injuries, I asked him to play in midfield and he's done really well for a



Oldham manager Joe Royle — "My ambition is to lead this club to the First Division and it's no pipe dream."

bad in his first full season. He has given us a lot of aggression and bite in midfield, but tends to pick up too many bookings.

PAUL ATKINSON (midfield): He burst on the scene about three seasons ago when he was the subject of strong enquiries from Liverpool. He went through a bad spell, but this season he has once more found the level of consistency which has made clubs interested.

DARREN McDONOUGH (forward): Played most of his football for Oldham in midfield, but earlier in the season we were struggling to score goals and I decided to play him up front on a temporary basis. He did so well we kept him up there and he's continued to score goals and create chances for others.

ROGER WYLDE (forward): Our leading scorer this season, whose contribution has been invaluable. He sometimes tends to drift out of games and I get a little frustrated with him, but suddenly he will pop up where it matters most and score a vital goal. He seems to have benefited from the physical presence of young Darren McDonough alongside him.

OLDHAM RECORDS

Football League Record: 1907 Elected to Division Two; 1910-23 Division One; 1923-35 Division Two; 1935-53 Division Three (North); 1953-54 Division Two; 1954-58 Division Three; 1958-63 Division Four; 1963-69 Division Three; 1969-74 Division Four; 1971-74 Division Three; 1974- Division Two.

HONOURS

Division One runners-up 1914-15; Division Two runners-up, 1909-10; Division Three (North) champions, 1952-53; Division Three champions, 1973-74; Division Four runners-up 1962-63; FA Cup Semi-Final, 1913.

MANAGER Joe Royle shrugged off the disappointment of missing out on promotion and confidently declared: "We can do it next year."

It's sixty years since the unfashionable club from the Lancashire mill town played in the First Division and crowds in excess of 30,000 packed the terraces of Boundary Park.

But now there is a strong feeling that a return to the soccer big time is just around the corner.

Joe, nearing the end of his first season in charge at Oldham, says: "My ambition is to lead this club to the First Division, and it's no pipe dream.

"Although we only have a small squad, I feel it's good enough to play in the top flight, and it's only a matter of time before that happens."

In fact 'Big Joe' came close to realising his ambition this season and only in recent months has the promotion dream faded.

"I think we were good enough to go up, and our performances against the top teams in the division bear that out," says the former Everton, Manchester City, Bristol City and Norwich striker.

"But we didn't do ourselves justice against the lower teams

ROYALE

JOHN Ryan is the latest in a line of Oldham youngsters to gain international recognition this season.

Following in the footsteps of Andy Goram, Paul Atkinson and Paul Heaton, John has caught the eye of the England selectors and was named in the Under-21 squad for the game against Hungary this week.

Only minutes after news of his inclusion in the squad was broken to him by manager Joe Royle, he said: "It's capped a great season for me and I couldn't be more delighted."

If someone had said to me at the start of the season that this was going to happen, I wouldn't have believed them... it's great news."

The 21-year-old, who has scored about ten goals from left-back, was called-up for an Under-21 get together at the end of February, but was left out of the squad for the Greece game the following month.

"I was a bit disappointed at the time, because I half-expect to be picked, but I've made up for it now," says John, who is in his fifth year at Oldham.

He joined the Lancashire club straight from school in 1978, when he was snatched from under the noses of First Division giants Manchester United.

John explains: "I was a ball boy at United for about four years and played for Manchester's junior club, Mancunians."

I even went to several training sessions with United during the summer in the hope they would sign me, but they never asked.

"It was after a school match that a chief scout from Oldham asked me if I wanted to go for a trial and I agreed. I joined them as an apprentice after leaving school."

He was soon to discover that

RYAN JOINS OLDHAM'S ENGLAND 'SQUAD'

footballer's life is not as glamorous as he first thought. As an apprentice I had to clean boots, clean the windows around the ground and at the start of the season I even had to weed the terraces," he recalls.

"I became a little disillusioned with it all at one stage, but realised that if I was to make a career out of the game, I had to do these jobs."

When he was 18 John signed professional terms and only had to wait another year before making his first team debut, against Cardiff at the beginning of last season.

"It was a great experience and made me think all the hard work had been worthwhile," he says. "I owe a lot to coach Bill Urson and the late Bill Taylor, who helped me a great deal when I began my career."

Since making his debut, John has been a regular in the first team at Boundary Park and has played a major role in his side's promotion bid this season.

Oldham's First Division dream! Dave Smith reports . . .

and on a number of occasions we came away with a draw, when we should have won.

"After 37 games we had drawn 18 and that's where we have slipped up. If we could have won three or four of those matches, as we should have done, we would still be up there challenging for promotion.

"On the whole my first season in management has been very pleasing, but at the same time somewhat frustrating, because I feel we should have gone up."

Joe believes that the three points for a win system, in operation since last season, may have denied Oldham the chance of First Division status.

Under the old system, whereby two points were awarded for a win, Oldham would have been just three points behind third-placed Fulham with five games remaining.

But after 37 matches they were nine points adrift of Malcolm Macdonald's team and realistically out of the promotion race.

"I was against the 'three points

for a win system' when it was first introduced. I am even more so now," he joked. "I'm a bit of a traditionalist and don't like to see the rules tampered with."

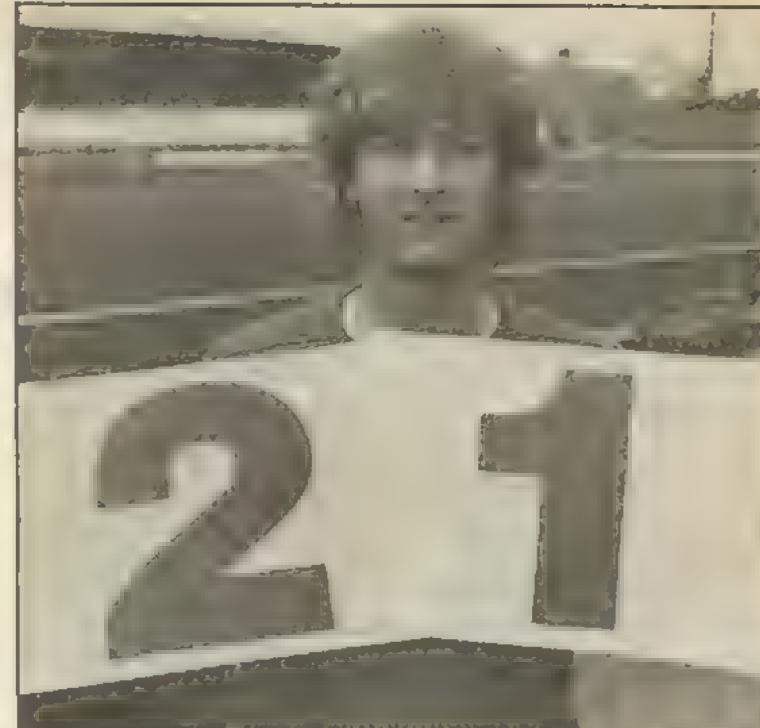
Joe took charge at Boundary Park in July, after he was forced to retire from playing because of injury. "Football had been my life and I desperately wanted to stay in the game, so I wrote off to a few clubs looking for a job as a manager," says the former England international.

"I was very impressed with the set-up and the players at Oldham, so I had no hesitation in accepting when I was offered the job."

Joe knew from the onset that he would have to run the club on a shoestring budget and during his first season he has been able to delve into the transfer market only once . . . to buy midfielder Tony Henry for £15,000 from Bolton.

And that 'bargain buy' was only made possible because the club had just sold centre-half Paul Futterer to Derby for £100,000.

"I was very reluctant to sell Paul because he was a key player in the



Twenty-one...that's Roger Wylde's goal target for the season.

ARTILLERY!

He has earned rave notices in the press and his manager Joe Royle puts him in the same class as England internationals Derek Statham and Kenny Sansom.

But Joe doesn't expect to be pushing Derek or Kenny for a place in the international side for a year or two yet. "I don't think I'll make the Mill squad while I'm playing in the Second Division," he says.

But if Oldham can win promotion next season, which is my immediate aim, it may boost my chances a little.

"My ambition is to play in a World Cup Finals and with the next tournament three years away, I've got plenty of time to try and establish myself."

side," recalls Joe. "But because of our financial position we couldn't afford to turn down Derby's offer.

"It was a great loss but we had to be realistic.

"We need money to survive and until the fans start coming through the turnstiles, enabling us to keep our star players, we will have to consider all offers."

The biggest attendance at Boundary Park so far this season was for the Easter game against Leeds when more than 15,000 turned up. But the average for the season is below 7,000.

Says Joe: "I feel that our performances this season have deserved better support, but I realise the only way to get that is

JOE GOES GUNNING FOR DIVISION ONE

by winning promotion to Division One.

"Oldham has been particularly hard hit by unemployment, and we are also faced with the problem of having the two Manchester clubs a few miles up the road.

"In fact, there are about 20 clubs within easy reach and so we can't rely on fringe support. I have no doubt that the situation will be remedied if we get into the First Division, because many of the games will be like local derbies and should attract big gates."

One player who could well be heading the charge to the First Division next season is leading scorer Roger Wylde.

The former Sheffield Wednesday striker has yet to play in the top flight, after 13 years in the game, and he's doubly keen to make it next year.

"It's long been my ambition to play in Division One, but it has always evaded me . . . maybe next year I'll be there with Oldham," he says.

After 37 games, Roger had scored 17 League goals and with only a handful of games left to play was hoping to reach his target of 21. "It's not the best season I've had for scoring goals, but if I can get around the 20 mark I'll be pleased."

His goal tally was given a boost during a purple patch in the middle

of the season when he scored 11 goals in ten games, including a hat-trick in the 4-1 home win against Wolves.

"Every striker goes through a spell when everything clicks and at that time I couldn't do anything wrong," he says.

"The fact that the team was playing so well at the time helped me because we were creating so many chances. That was our best spell of the season and put us in with a good chance of promotion."

"But we had a few injuries and suspensions around Christmas, and because we only have a small squad we struggled a bit."

"The young lads who came in did a tremendous job, but we drew too many games to maintain a serious challenge and fell away."

Roger is enjoying the best spell of his career at Boundary Park where he has been for the past three years.

OLDHAM'S RECORD SINCE THEY RETURNED TO DIVISION TWO IN 1974

Season	Division	Position	Top scorer
1974/75	Two	18th	Robins 9
1975/76	Two	17th	Shaw 13
1976/77	Two	13th	Halam 19
1977/78	Two	8th	Taylor 20
1978/79	Two	14th	Young 10
1979/80	Two	11th	Stevens 11
1980/81	Two	15th	Wylde 12
1981/82	Two	11th	Wylde 16

CHARLIE NICHOLAS

Celtic and Scotland



**GOLDEN
GOAL!**

CHARLIE
NICHOLAS

SCOTLAND 2 SWITZERLAND 2

**Group One, European Championship Qualifier,
Hampden Park, Wednesday, March 30.**

SOMETHING special was demanded of Scottish wonder boy Charlie Nicholas on his international debut and the Celtic goal machine didn't disappoint.

He scored his country's equaliser with a deadly piece of finishing which brought Hampden Park to its feet.

"I felt as though I was expected to score," admits the youngster, "so the goal took a lot of pressure off me. It was the most important of my career so far."

"John Wark lobbed the ball over a Swiss defender's head and I expected him to close me down. He didn't so I was able to control it with my right (see diagram above) and hit it with my left."

"I really enjoyed my first international even though the result virtually put paid to our European Championship hopes."



"This was the most important goal of my career" — Charlie Nicholas.



Right: John Wark — he scored Scotland's first.

LIVERPOOL'S home record has long been regarded as the best in the land. Anfield is a tough place from which to sneak away with any points.

But how does your favourite team's home record compare with that of the Champions this season?

**Reporter Melvyn Beck
brings you the answers . . .**

IT must seem like a dream to success-starved York City fans to see the tiny Fourth Division side second only to Liverpool!

But there they are, boasting the second best home record in the country, with only the Football League champions topping them in our exclusive League table.

If only York were better travellers, then former Stoke king-pin Denis Smith might well have celebrated promotion in his first season as player-manager at Bootham Crescent.

Crescent.
They had dropped just six points at home after 19 matches... but managed only 17 points from a possible 63 on their travels, leaving them perched frustratingly on the fringe of the promotion battle.

Liverpool, who are virtually as safe as Fort Knox at Anfield, naturally head the



'This is Anfield' — the players' tunnel sign that strikes fear into the hearts of the opposition.

Ian Rush (left) and Kenny Dalglish — two good reasons why few teams go away from Anfield with any points.

IDEAL HOMES!

table, averaging 2 684 points per game from their 19 home League outings.

Only three teams — Manchester United, Luton and Everton — have managed to come away from Anfield with a point and up to the middle of April, Liverpool possessed one of only three unbeaten home records in the country.

The others belonged to FA Cup finalists Manchester United and Third Division promotion hopefuls Huddersfield, but both of them had been involved in seven home stalemates.

European Cup holders Aston Villa are third in our table and they might have pushed Liverpool a little harder for the Championship had they performed equally well away from Villa Park.

Compared with their 44 home points from 18 games, they managed only 14 from the same number away from their Midlands headquarters.

But with the exception of York, the top eight teams in our table are all involved in the race for honours this season, either for promotion or European places.

Another team let down by their away form is Plymouth. They had picked up 15 wins from 19 home games, but collected just 15 points from 20 away matches to leave them in mid-table.

Cambridge United have possibly most to regret. They've produced promotion form at home with 37 points from 19 games, but away from the Abbey Stadium, they've touched rock bottom with just seven points from a possible 54.

At the other end of the scale, Rotherham, who recently sacked player-manager Emlyn Hughes, have the worst home record, and that's the main reason why they are facing a grim battle for survival in the Second Division.

Luton's collapse of home form is perhaps the most remarkable, despite the fact that they have been in First Division combat this season.

As Second Division Champions last term they were beaten only twice at Kenilworth Road, but so far this season they have seen no fewer than 24 points go away from their ground.

The table below shows the home record of each of the 92 League clubs, stating games won, lost, drawn and points gained with the last column showing average points gained per game on their own soil.

HOME RECORDS

● Up to and including League matches played on April 17



Arsenal's Vladimír Poláček shows his battling qualities in the build-up. Aston Villa's Gary Shaw and prepares to challenge Gordon Cowans (10)

match

STAR CHALLENGE

HUDDERSFIELD could have been promoted to the Second Division two years ago if they hadn't become too complacent, says midfielder Mark Lillis.

Mark — this week's special guest in 'Star Challenge' explains: "We were in contention then until we suddenly slackened off."

"After a couple of good results, we suddenly let the whole thing slip. We'll have learned from that experience."

"The only time you are sure of promotion is when you've got one game to play and are four points clear of the rest of the field."

On Saturday Huddersfield travel to Eastville Stadium for a tough game against Bristol Rovers and Mark knows that three points are vital.

He says: "The situation at the top is very tight. There are so many good teams in the Third Division."

Mark expects promotion contenders Newport to win again when they entertain fellow Welsh side Wrexham. He says: "County have surprised everyone with a fantastic late burst."

"They enjoyed an incredible run when they picked up 30 points out of a possible 33 and it shot them straight to the top."

But Mark believes Portsmouth's push to the Second Division could receive a setback at Doncaster. "Manager Billy Brammer really relishes clashes against the big guns so he'll have his players geared up for this one."

"Portsmouth have spent a lot of money in an all-out bid for promotion. If the players click, they'll have a great team."



Huddersfield
Midfielder
Mark Lillis (above)
and (left) his
challenger
'Match' reader
Stephen Drake of Halifax, West
Yorks

Fellow Yorkshire club Sheffield United were widely tipped to go straight through the Third Division, but Mark says: "They've got a lot of big name players but they just haven't played well together."

The attraction of former Northern Ireland and Manchester United superstar George Best is sure to add a few more thousand to Bradford City's gate on Saturday.

The wayward genius signed for Bournemouth just before the transfer deadline and could play at Valley Parade. "George was the greatest player I've ever seen."

"Unfortunately we have played Bournemouth twice this season so I won't get a chance to come up against him. It would have been great to have played against someone like him."

Mark has been challenged by 12-year-old Stephen Drake of Halifax, West Yorkshire.

If Stephen manages to predict more correct scorelines than his favourite Huddersfield player he'll be presented with a special 'Star Challenge' certificate.

Win, lose or draw the youngster won't go home empty-handed. He'll receive a personally autographed picture of Mark.

MARK LILLIS

is this week's star guest

Here are the ten selected matches for this week, together with the predictions of a lucky 'Match' reader and his famous opponent.

There's space for you to fill in your predictions and a column for the

actual result.

Award two points for every correct score and one point if the result is correct (i.e. home win, away win, draw), but the scoreline is wrong.

	Stephen's forecast	Mark's forecast	Your forecast	Result
Bradford v Bournemouth	2-1	1-0		
Brentford v Sheff U	2-2	1-1		
Chesterfield v Cardiff	1-2	0-2		
Doncaster v Portsmouth	0-2	1-1		
Lincoln v Oxford	2-1	2-2		
Newport v Wrexham	3-1	2-0		
Orient v Exeter	1-1	2-1		
Plymouth v Preston	2-1	2-0		
Reading v Millwall	2-1	1-1		
Wigan v Gilliingham	0-1	0-1		

FIXTURES

Saturday, April 30

DIVISION ONE

Aston Villa v Stoke	.....
Coventry v West Brom	.....
Everton v West Ham	.....
Man C v Notts Co	.....
Norwich v Man Utd	.....
Notts Co v Brighton	.....
Southampton v Luton	.....
Sunderland v Birmingham	.....
Swansea v Ipswich	.....
Spurs v Liverpool	.....
Watford v Arsenal	.....

DIVISION TWO

Blackburn v Middlesbro'	.....
Cambridge v Newcastle	.....
Carlisle v QPR	.....
Chelsea v Rotherham	.....
Derby v Burnley	.....
Grimsby v Oldham	.....
Leeds v Barnsley	.....
Leicester v Bolton	.....
Sheff Wed v Fulham	.....
Wolves v C Palace	.....

DIVISION THREE

Bradford v Bournemouth	.....
Brentford v Sheff Utd	.....
Bristol R v Huddersfield	.....
Chesterfield v Cardiff	.....
Doncaster v Portsmouth	.....
Lincoln v Oxford	.....
Newport v Wrexham	.....
Orient v Exeter	.....
Plymouth v Preston	.....
Reading v Millwall	.....
Wigan v Gilliingham	.....

DIVISION FOUR

Blackpool v Aldershot	.....
Bury v Scunthorpe	.....
Chester v Hull	.....
Crewe v Wimbledon	.....
Darlington v Northampton	.....
Hereford v Tranmere	.....
Mansfield v York	.....
Rochdale v Torquay	.....
Swindon v Stockport	.....

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Dundee v Aberdeen	.....
Kilmarnock v Celtic	.....
Morton v Dundee Utd	.....
Motherwell v Hibs	.....
Rangers v St Mirren	.....

FIRST DIVISION

Airdrie v St Johnstone	.....
Ayr v Queens Park	.....
Clyde v Raith	.....
Clydebank v Hamilton	.....
Dumbarton v Partick	.....
Falkirk v Alloa	.....
Hearts v Dunfermline	.....

■ Bad luck to "match" reader Rita Reynolds of West Dulwich, London, who was beaten six points to four by Spurs and England star Gary Mabbutt in the April 9 'Star Challenge'.

■ And Aston Villa's Gary Shaw was held to a draw by Tina O'Neill, of Dagenham, Essex, in our April 16 'Star Challenge'.

SECOND DIVISION

Arbroath v Stranraer	.....
Berwick v Cowdenbeath	.....
Brechin v Forfar	.....
East Stirling v Albion	.....
Meadowbank v East Fife	.....
Queen of the South v Montrose	.....
Stenhousemuir v Stirling	.....

Monday, May 2

DIVISION ONE

Arsenal v Man Utd	.....
Birmingham v Brighton	.....
Everton v Coventry	.....
Luton v Stoke	.....
Man C v Notts Co	.....
Not'm F v Liverpool	.....
Sunderland v Watford	.....
West Brom v Norwich	.....

DIVISION TWO

Barnsley v Newcastle	.....
Blackburn v Derby	.....
Bolton v Grimsby	.....
Charlton v Wolves	.....
Chelsea v Sheff Wed	.....
Leeds v Leicester	.....
Middlesbro' v C Palace	.....
QPR v Fulham	.....
Rotherham v Oldham	.....

DIVISION THREE

Bournemouth v Doncaster	.....
Cardiff v Brentford	.....
Exeter v Southend	.....
Huddersfield v Wigan	.....
Millwall v Newport	.....
Oxford v Reading	.....
Portsmouth v Orient	.....
Preston v Lincoln	.....
Sheff Utd v Bristol R	.....
Walsall v Plymouth	.....
Wrexham v Chesterfield	.....

DIVISION FOUR

Aldershot v Hereford	.....
Bristol C v Darlington	.....
Hartlepool v Colchester	.....
Hull v Mansfield	.....
Scunthorpe v Swindon	.....
Stockport v Crewe	.....
Torquay v Halifax	.....
Tranmere v Rochdale	.....
Wimbledon v Chester	.....
York v Port Vale	.....

Tuesday, May 3

DIVISION ONE

Ipswich v West Ham	.....
Southampton v Spurs	.....
Swansea v Aston Villa	.....

DIVISION TWO

Carlisle v Cambridge
Shrewsbury v Burnley

DIVISION THREE

Gillingham v Bradford
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Wednesday, May 4

DIVISION FOUR

Peterborough v Blackpool
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SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION
Motherwell v Aberdeen

Friday, May 6

DIVISION FOUR

Stockport v Port Vale
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MATCH FACTS MATCH FACTS

Sunday, April 17

Division Two

CHARLTON (2) 4 (Hales 25, White 34, Curtis 56, Clements og 72)
OLDHAM (0) 1 (Wyld 80)
 All 1 193
 Charlton Johns 7, Curtis 7, Dickenson 7, McAllister 7, McDonald 7, Berry 7, Smith 7, Harris 8, Haes 8, ★WHITE 9, Robinson 7, Odham ★GORAM 7, McMahon 6 (sub Hudson 5), Ryan 6, Bowden 5, Clements 5, Anderson 6, Wyld 6, Atkinson 6, McDonough 6, Henry 5, Palmer 6
 Referee: M J Taylor (Walmer)
 Match Rating ★★★★

Division Four

STOCKPORT (1) 1 (Quinn 33)
TORQUAY (0) 0
 Att 1 985
 Stockport Lloyd 6, Rutter 7, Thorpe 7, Emerson 6, Sword 7, Bowes 6, Williams 7, Smith 6, ★QUINN 8, Power 7, Coyle 7
 Torquay, ★HORN 9, Doy 6, Holmes 6, James 8, Little 6, Jones 7, Smith 6 (sub Sheridan), Gallagher 6, Cooper 7, Anderson 6, Bishop 6
 Referee: K P Barratt (Coventry)
 Match Rating ★★★

Tuesday, April 19

Division One

ASTON VILLA (1) 1 (Mortimer 44)
WEST BROM (0) 0
 All 26 921
 Aston Villa Spinik 6, Williams 6, Gibson 6, Evans 7, McNaught 7, Mortimer 6, Curbishley 6, ★SHAW 8, Withe 7, Cowans 7, Morley 6, West Brom Barron 6, Whitchurch 6, ★STATHAM 8, Zondervan 6, Wile 7, Robertson 6, Jo 6, Perry 6, Webb 7, Owen 6, Cross 5
 Referee: L Shapter (Torquay)
 Match Rating ★★

EVERTON (0) 2 (McGrath og 64, Heath 71), **MANCHESTER UNITED** (0) 0
 Att 21 707
 Everton Arnold 8, Stevens 6, Bailey 7, Reid 6, Higgins 6, Richardson 7, McMahon 7, Johnson 8, ★SHARP 9, Heath 8, Sheedy 6, Man Utd. Waes 6, Duxbury 6, Alston 6, Moses 7, McGrath 7, McQueen 7, Robson 7, Williams 8, Stapleton 8, Whiteside 7 (sub Cunningham 7), ★GRIMES 9
 Referee: D Alison (Lancaster)
 Match Rating ★★★

SUNDERLAND (1) 1 (Pickering 37), **BRIGHTON** (1) 1 (Smith 11)
 Att 13 414
 Sunderland Prudhoe 7, Whitfield 7, Munro 6, Atkins 7, Chisholm 5, ★PICKERING 8, Venison 7, Rowell 5, Worthington 5, James 5, Cooke 5
 Brighton Digweed 6, Ramsey 7, Getting 7, ★GREALISH 8, Fosler 7, Stevens 6, Case 6, Howett 6, Robinson 6, Smith 6, Smale 6, sub Connor
 Referee: D Richardson (Great Harwood)
 Match Rating ★★★

Division Two

FULHAM (0) 1 (Gale 73), **BARNESLEY** (0) 0
 All 9 003
 Fulham Peyton 7, Hopkins 6, Lock 7, O Driscoll 7, Brown 7, Gale 7, Davies 7, Wilson 7, Coney 7, Houghton 7, ★LEWINGTON 8, Barnesley Pearce 8, Barrowclough 8, Chambers 6, Shut 6, Banks 6, ★McCARTHY 9, Goodison 8, Parker 4, Ronson 5, Cunningham 7, Birch 5
 Referee: A Robinson (Waterloo 1 e)
 Match Rating ★★★★

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (0) 0, **QPR** (0) 1 (Flanagan 70)
 Att 11 713
 Sheffield Wed Bolder 7, Shirliff 7, Peter 7, Williamson 6, Smith 7, Oliver 8, ★SHELTON 8, Megson 6, Mills 6 (sub Pearson), Banister 7, McColl 6, Heard 8, Hare 8, ★HAZELL 8, Fewick 6, Wicks 6, Sealy 7, Stanrod 6, Flanagan 7, Gregory 6
 Referee: R Nixon (Wimborne 1)
 Match Rating ★★

The best results service in football

MATCH FACTS is the results service that's the talk of football, providing a remarkably detailed guide to League, League Cup and FA Cup matches in England and Scotland.

It is acknowledged as the best service of its kind by top football statisticians because...
 ● It is right up-to-date, bringing you all the previous week's games only four days after each Saturday's programme.

● It contains extra information, like star ratings for each player and entertainment values for each game.
 ■ It includes League tables and the leading scorers in each division once the season gets underway.

And each month our player ratings determine the prestigious Matchman of the Month awards in each of the four English divisions plus the Scottish Premier.
 No other publication provides such a service!

European Cup Winners' Cup, Semi-Final, Second Leg

WATERSCHEI (Belgium) (0) 1 (Voordeckers)
ABERDEEN (0) 0
 Att 12 000
 (Aberdeen win 5-2 on aggregate)

Wednesday, April 20

Division One

NORWICH (1) 3 (Deehan 30, 86, Béritsch 80)
ARSENAL (1) 1 (Davis 29)
 Att 16 858
 Norwich Woods 7, Haycock 7, Downs 7, Mendham 6 (sub O'Neil 16), Watford 6, Watson 8, Barnham 7, Channon 8, ★DEEHAN 8, Béritsch 7, Bennett 6, Arsenal Woods 6, Kay 6, Sansom 7, Talbot 6, O'Leary 6, Whyte 7, ★McDERMOTT 8, Hill 6, Davis 6, Chapman 7, Rix 7 (sub Hollins 7)
 Referee: D Axcell (Southend)
 Match Rating ★★★★

Division Two

NEWCASTLE (2) 4 (McDermott 33, Verdi 43, Wharton 51, Keegan 70)
ROTHERHAM (0) 0
 Att 1B 447
 Newcastle Carr 7, Anderson 7, Wharton 7, McCreary 8, Clarke 8, Cerney 7, ★KEEGAN 8, McDonald 7, Verdi 7, McDermott 7, Waddell 7 (sub Martin)
 Rotherham Conroy 7, Forrest 6, Frer 6, Gow 8, Stansfield 7, Green 8, Arnott 6 (sub McEwan 6), ★SEASMAN 8, Moore 8, Michel 6, McBride 7
 Referee: M Wilson (Morecambe)
 Match Rating ★★★

SCOTTISH Premier Division

CELTIC (1) 2 (Nicholas pen 38, Burns 73)
DUNDEE UNITED (1) 3 (Hegarty 14, Bannon pen 52, Milne 84)
 Att 23 964
 Celtic Bonner 7, Sinclair 6 (sub McClay 7), Reid 6, Aitken 7, McAdam 6, MacLeod 7, ★PROVAN 8, McStay 8, Nichols 6, Burns 7, McGarvey 6, Dundee United McAlpine 7, Stark 6, Malpas 7, Gough 7, Hegarty 8, Narey 7, Bannon 7, Milne 7, Ho 16, ★STURROCK 8, Dodds 6
 Referee: D Syme (Glasgow)
 Match Rating ★★★★
 Sending Off: Gough (Dundee Ltd)

European Cup, Semi-Final, Second Leg

Widzew Lodz (Poland) 2, Juventus (Italy) 2
 — Juventus win 4-2 on agg, Hamburg (West Germany) 2, Real Sociedad (Spain) 1
 Hamburg win 3-2 on agg

European Cup Winners' Cup, Semi-Final, Second Leg

Real Madrid (Spain) 3, Austria Vienna (Austria) 1
 Real Madrid win 5-3 on agg

UEFA Cup, Semi-Final, Second Leg

Craiova (Romania) 1, Benfica (Portugal) 1 (aet) — Benfica win on away goals rule, Anderlecht (Belgium) 3, Bohemians Prague (Czech) 1
 Anderlecht win 4-1 on

SCOTTISH

Scottish Cup, Semi-Final Replay

RANGERS (0) 1 (Clark 119)
ST MIRREN (0) 0
 Att 25,125 (At Hampden Park, After Extra Time)
 Rangers McClay 7, Dawson 7, McClelland 7, McPherson 7, Paterson 6, ★BETTS 8, Russell 7, McKinnon 6, Clark 6, Redford 6, Cooper 7 (sub Privitz)
 St Mirren Thomson 7, Wilson 6, Clarke 7, ★RICHARDSON 8, Fulton 7, McCormack 6, McDougal 6, MacAvenny 7, Sommerville 8, Abercromby 7, Scanlon 7
 Referee: B McGinlay (Balfron)
 Match Rating ★★★★

Division Four

NORTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Tucker, pen 90)
ROCHDALE (1) 1 (French 27)
 Att 1 728
 Northampton Gleasure 7, Tucker 7, Phillips 6, Gage 6, Burrows 7, Heeley 6, Jeffrey 6, Saxby 5 (sub Sandy 5), ★BUCHANAN 8, Syrett 6, Massey 6

League Trophy Final

LINCOLN (1) 2 (Burke 21)
MILLWALL (0) 3 (Martin 2, McCleary 1)
 Att 3 142

MATCHFACTS MATCHFACTS

Friday, April 22
Division Three

WREXHAM (0) 0
BRISTOL ROVERS (0) 0
Att 2,053
Wrexham Niedzwiecki 7 King 7, ★BATER 8 Evans 6 (sub Edwards 8) Downman 6 Keay 7 Arkwright 6 Buxton 6 Hunt 6 Muldoon 6 HJ 7
Bristol Rovers Kite 7 Slater 7 Williams 7 Pulis 6 ★SHERWOOD 8 McCaffery 7 Ball 8 Holloway 6 Withey 5 (sub Stephens 6) Randal 7 Barrett 7 Referee H Taylor (Oadby) Match Rating ★★

Division Four

STOCKPORT (1) 3 Smith 17 Coyle 62 Quinn 65
COLCHESTER (0) 0
Att 1,733
Stockport Lloyd 7 Rutter 7 Thorpe 6 Emerson 6 Sword 7 Bowles 7 Williams 6 ★SMITH 8 Quinn 7 Power 6 Coyle 7 Colchester Walker 6 Cooke 6 McDonough 6 Longhorn 6 (sub Groves) Wignall 7 Coleman 6 Allison 7 Osborne 6 Bowen 6 ★ADCOCK 8 Hull 7 Referee N L Wilson (Morecambe) Match Rating ★★★

Saturday, April 23

Division One

ARSENAL (1) 3 Talbot 25, 72 85
MANCHESTER CITY (0) 0
Att 16,802
Arsenal Jennings 8 Hill 6 O'Leary 7 Whyte 7 Kay 8 Nichols 6 Sanson 7 ★TALBOT 8 Davis 7 Woodcock 7 (sub Hawley 6) McDermott 7
Man City Williams 7 McDonald 6 Bond 6 Calton 6 Ranson 5 (sub Bodak 5) Power 6 ★HARTFORD 8 Reid 6 Baker 5 Tueart 6 Kinsey 5
Referee D H Brazier (Northampton) Match Rating ★★

BIRMINGHAM (0) 1 Hopkins 88

EVERTON (0) 0

Att 11,045

Birmingham Blyth 6 Van den Hauwe 6 Denn 7 Hagen 7 Blake 6 Phillips 7 Gayle 7 (sub Broadhurst 6) Hendrys 7 ★HARFORD 8 Halsall 7 Hopkins 7 Everton ★ARNOLD 8 Stevens 6 Bailey 8 Reid 6 Mountfield 6 Richardson 6 McMahon 6 (sub Ainscow) Johnson 6 Sharp 6 Heath 5 Sheedy 6 Referee K Cooper (Pontypridd) Match Rating ★★★

BRIGHTON (0) 1 Connor 79

COVENTRY (0) 0

Att 14,674

Brighton Moseley 6 Ramsey 6 Getting 6 Greatshill 7 Foster 7 Stevens 7 Case 7 (sub Connor 7) ★HOWLETT 8 Robinson 6 Smith 6 Smilie 7 Coventry Souley 7 Thomas 7 Roberts 6 Butterworth 6 Dyson 7 G Leslie 6 Whittom 6 ★FRANCIS 8 Hailey 6 Jacobs 5 Hunt 6 Referee E Read (Bristol) Match Rating ★★★ Sendings Off Ramsey (Brighton) Jacobs (Coventry)

IPSWICH (2) 4 Wark 36, 77 Mariner 44 Turner 90

SUNDERLAND (0) 1 (Pickering 89)

Att 16,193

Ipswich Cooper 6 Burley 7 McCall 7 Putney 7 (sub Turner 6) Steggles 7 Butcher 7 ★WARK 8 Kinsella 6 Mariner 7 D'Avray 7 O'Callaghan 7 Sunderland Prudhoe 6 Venison 6 Munro 6 ★ATKINS 8 Hindmarsh 7 Chisholm 6 Cooke 6 West 7 Worthington 6 (sub McCorist 6) James 5 Pickering 6 Referee M Dimblebee (Stevenage) Match Rating ★★★★

LIVERPOOL (0) 0

NORWICH (0) 2 (Lawrenson, og 52, O'Neill 72) Att 37,022 Liverpool Grobbelaar 6 Neal 6 Kennedy 7 Lawrenson 6 Whelan 7 Hansen 6 Dalglish 7 Lee 7 ★HODGSON 8 Johnston 7 Souness 7

Norwich ★WOODS 9 Haylock 7 Downs 6 O'Neill 8 Walford 7 Watson 8 Barham 8 Channon 7 Deehan 8 Berischin 7 Bennett 7 Referee D Lloyd (Worcester) Match Rating ★★

LUTON (0) 3 (Walsh 55, 74, 86)
SWANSEA (0) 1 (Latchford 85)

Luton Godden 7 Stephens 8 Money 8 Horton 7 Elliott 7 Donaghy 7 Hill 8 Aylott 8 ★WALSH 9 Turner 7 Moss 7

Swansea ★SANDER 8 Marusik 7 Richards 6 Charles 6 Lewis 7 Rajkovic 6 Loveridge 7 James 7 Robinson 6 (sub Pascoe 6) Kennedy 6 Latchford 7 Referee A J Hamil (Wolverhampton) Match Rating ★★★★

MANCHESTER UNITED (0) 2 (Cunningham 50, Grimes, pen 62)
WATFORD (0) 0

Att 43,048
Man Utd Wealands 7 Duxbury 6 Alston 6 (sub Cunningham 6) ★MOSES 8 McGrath 8 McQueen 6 Robson 6 Wilkins 7 Stapleton 7 Whiteside 7 Grimes 8 Watford Sherwood 6 Rice 6 Rostrom 6 Taylor 6 Sims 5 Bolton 6 Jobson 5 Bissell 7 ★BARNSLEY 8 Jackiet 6 Johnson 5 Referee D Shaw (Sandbach) Match Rating ★★★★

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (2) 2 (Swain 13, Proctor 21)

Notts County (1) 1 (Lehtinen 1) Att 26,554
Nottingham Forest Van Breukelen 7 ★ANDERSON 8 Swain 7 Gunn 7 Young 6 Bowyer 7 Proctor 7 Wallace 7 Davenport 6 Walsh 7 Roberts 7 Notts County Avramovic 7 Benjamin 5 (sub Harkoff 7) Hunt 7 Goodwin 6 Kilcline 6 Richards 6 Chedzoy 7 Christie 6 McCulloch 6 ★LAHTINEN 8 Worthington 7 Referee A Grey (G1 Yarmouth) Match Rating ★★★★

STOKE (0) 1 (Berry 59)

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Walace 87) Att 14,903
Stoke Fox 7 Bould 6 Hampton 6 ★BRACEWELL 9 Watson 8 Berry 7 Painter 7 McIlroy 7 O'Callaghan 7 Thomas 8 Chamberlain, M 7 Southampton Shilton 8 Agboola 7 Mills 7 ★WILLIAMS 9 Nicholl 7 Waldron 7 Holmes 7 Foyle 6 (sub Puckett), Moran 7 Armstrong 7 Wallace 7 Referee N Glover (Adlington) Match Rating ★★★★

WEST BROM (0) 0

TOTTENHAM (1) 1 (Archibald 29) Att 14,940
West Brom ★BARRON 7 Webb 6 Statham 5 Zonderland 5 Wile 6 Robertson 5 Jul 4 Thompson 5 Regis 6 Owen 5 Whitehead 5 (sub Perry 6) Spur's Clemence 7 Hughton 7 ★O'REILLY 8 Roberts 7 Miller 6 Perryman 7 Mabbett 7 Archibald 7 Galvin 7 Hoddle 7 Brazil 6 (sub Gibson 7) Referee J Hough (Macclesfield) Match Rating ★★

WEST HAM (0) 2 (Swindlehurst 58, Bonds 77)

ASTON VILLA (0) 0
Att 21,822
West Ham Parkes 7 Stewart 7 Lampard 6 (sub Orr 7) ★BOND 8 Martin 7 Devonshire 7 Van der Elst 6 Goddard 6 Swindlehurst 7 Dickens 7 Pike 7 Aston Villa Spink 6 Williams 6 Gibson 6 Evans 7 McNaught 7 Walker 6 Curbishley 6 Shaw 6 Withe 6 ★COWANS 8 Morley 6 Referee C Thomas (Porthcawl) Match Rating ★★

WEST HAM (0) 2 (Swindlehurst 58, Bonds 77)

ASTON VILLA (0) 0
Att 21,822
West Ham Parkes 7 Stewart 7 Lampard 6 (sub Orr 7) ★BOND 8 Martin 7 Devonshire 7 Van der Elst 6 Goddard 6 Swindlehurst 7 Dickens 7 Pike 7 Aston Villa Spink 6 Williams 6 Gibson 6 Evans 7 McNaught 7 Walker 6 Curbishley 6 Shaw 6 Withe 6 ★COWANS 8 Morley 6 Referee C Thomas (Porthcawl) Match Rating ★★

Division Two

BARNESLEY (0) 2 (Galvin 57, 84)
BLACKBURN (0) 2 (Garner 61, Keeley 73)

Att 7,817
Barnsley Pierce 6 Goodison 7 Chambers 5 ★GLAVIN 8 Banks 5 McCarthy 7 Law 7 Arey 7 Ronson 6 Cunningham 5 Barrowclough 5 Blackburn Gennoe 6 Ma 16 Rathbone 5 Randell 5 Keeley 6 Fazakerley 7 ★BROTHERSTON 8 Branagan 6 Bell 7 Garner 7 Lowey 6 Referee R Nixon (West Kirby) Match Rating ★★★

BOLTON (1) 2 (Hoggan 3, 77)

CAMBRIDGE (0) 0
Att 4,636

Bolton McDonagh 7 Whitworth 6 Deakin 7 Gray 7 McElhinney 6 (sub Joyce) ★DOYLE 9 Chandler 8 Ridge 7 Moores 7 Hogan 8 Borrows 7

Cambridge Webster 7 Fisher 7 Murray 7 Turner 5 Reilly 5 Finney 6 Christie 7 Simon 6 Goldsmith 6 (sub Streete), Cooke 6 ★PYLE 8

Referee K Hackett (Sheffield) Match Rating ★★

BURNLEY (1) 3 (Hamilton 24, 80, Donovan, pen 65)

CHELSEA (0) 0

Att 7,393

Burnley Stevenson 8 Laws 6 Donachie 6 Phelan 7 Dobson 6 Flynn 7 Cassidy 7 Steven 7 ★HAMILTON 9, Donovan 7 Scott 7

Chelsea Francis 6 Jones 6 Chivers 5 Lee 6 Droy 6 Pates 6 Speader 7 Bumstead 7 Mayes 6 (sub Driver 6) Rhoades 6 Brown 6 ★CANOVILLE 8

Referee M Pack (Kendal) Match Rating ★★★★

CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 2 (Hilares 49, Brooks 78)

GRIMSBY (0) 0

Att 5,909

Crystal Palace Fry 6 Hinshelwood 6 Brooks 7 Nebbeling 6 Cannon 6 Gilbert 5 Brown 5 Hughton 5 Mabbett 6 Giles 6 ★HILARE 8 Grimsby Batch 6 Moore 6 D5 Crombie 6 Waters 6 Saxby 5 Moore, K6 Cooper 4 (sub Kilmore 6) Bonneman 4 Drinkell 6 O'Dell 5 ★FORD 7

Referee S G Bates (Bristol) Match Rating ★★★

FULHAM (0) 0

LEICESTER (0) 1 (Wilson 63)

Att 24,251

Fulham Payton 7 Hopkins 7 Lock 7 O'Driscoll 6 ★BROWN 8 Gale 5 Davies 6 Wilson 7 Coney 6 (sub Parker) Houghton 6 Lewington 5

Leicester Wellington 6 Ramsey 7 Smith 8 McDonald 8 English 7 O'Neill 7 ★LYNXES 9 Lineker 8, Smith, A7 Daly 8, Wilson 8

Referee H W King (Merthyr Tydfil) Match Rating ★★★★

MIDDLEBROUGH (0) 0

WOLVES (0) 0

Att 10,315

Middlesbrough O'Hanlon 7 Natirress 7, Hamilton 7 Baxter 7 Mowbray 7 Otto 7 ★SUGRUE 8 Kennedy 7 Woods 7 Shearer 5 Currie 5 Bell 7

Wolves Burridge 7 Humphrey 7 Palmer 7 ★CARTWRIGHT 8 Pender 7 Dodd 6 Hibbitt 6 Clarke 5 Gray 7 (sub Smith 6) Livingstone 6 Matthews 6 Referee C Seal (Carlisle) Match Rating ★★★★

NEWCASTLE (1) 4 (Wharton 15, McDermott 48, Veradi 70, 84)

CHARLTON (0) 2 (Robinson 50, 67)

Att 20,526

Newcastle Carr 7 Anderson 6 (sub Martin 7) Wharton 7, McCreary 7, ★CLARKE 8, Carney 7, Keegan 8 McDonald 7 Vared 8 McDermott 7 Waddle 7

Charlton Johns 7 Curtis 7 Dickenson 7 McAllister 7 McDonald 7 Berry 8, Smith 7 Harris 8, Hales 8, White 7 ★ROBINSON 8 Referee J Worrell (Warrington) Match Rating ★★★★

OLDHAM (1) 1 (Wyld 42)

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (1) 1 (Bannister 37)

Att 5,088

Oldham ★GORAM 8 Hudson 6 Ryan 6 Bowden 6 (sub Humphreys 6) Clements 7 Hooligan 6 Wyld 7 Atkinson 6 McDonough 6 Henry 6 Palmer 6

Sheff Wed Bolder 6, Shirtliff (Peter) 6 Williamson 6, Smith 8, Oliver 6, Shelton 7 Megson 7 Mills 6, ★BANNISTER 8, Pearson 6, Heard 7 Referee K Redfern (Whitney Bay) Match Rating ★★★

QPR (1) 1 (Hart, og 8)

LEEDS (0) 0

Att 19,573

QPR Hucker 7, Neill 6 Dawes 7 Waddock 7, Hazel 8, Fenwick 7 Wicks 8 Sealy 7, Stannard 7 ★FLANAGAN 8, Gregory 7 Leeds Harvey 7 Thomas 6, Gray 7 Sheridan 6 Hart 6, Dickinson 6, Hird 6, ★GRAY, E8, Ritchie 7, Donnelly 6 (sub Gavin 6), Graham 7 Referee A Crickmore (Plymouth) Match Rating ★★★

ROTHERHAM (1) 1 (Seasman, pen 38)

DERBY (1) 1 (Gemmill 7)

Att 9,646

Rotherham Convoy 7, Forrest 7, Friar 8, Gow 7 Stancliffe 7 ★JOHNSON 8, McEwan 6, Seasman 7 Moore 7 Mitchell 6, McBride 7 Derby Cherry 8, Barton 7, Burns 7, ★GEMMILL 8, Powell 7, Fletcher 6, Broly 7, Davison 7, Wilson 6, Hooks 7, Delziel 6 (sub McAlle 6)

Referee J Lovatt (Crewe) Match Rating ★★★

SHREWSBURY (0) 2 (Williams 47, Bates 75)

CARLISLE (0) 1 (Shoulder 59)

Att 3,220

Shrewsbury Ogrizovic 5, Williams 7, Johnson 7, Griffin 7, Pearson 6, Stevens 6, McNally 6, ★MACLAREN 8, Brown 6 (sub Petts), Robinson 6, Bates 6, Carlisle 7, Swindale 7, ★HAIGH 8, McCartney 7, Coughlin 8, Rushbury 8, Houghton 6, Robson 6, Postle 6 (sub Parker), Shoulder 6 Referee G Napthine (Loughborough) Match Rating ★★★

Division Three

BOURNEMOUTH (1) 1 (Morgan 42)

LINCOLN (0) 0

Att 5,010

Bournemouth Leigh 7, Heffernan 6, Sulley 8, Spackman 7, Brignull 7, Impay 7, Best 7, Beck 7, Morgan 7, Lee 6, ★NIGHTINGALE 7

Lincoln Felgate 7, Brazier 6, Neal 7, Sirodder 6, Peake 7, Thompson 5, Thompson 6, Moss 6, ★HOBSON 8, Burke 6, Shipley 7 Referee A Gunn (Burgess Hill) Match Rating ★★★

CARDIFF (3) 4 (Hutton 21, Lewis 25, 48, Hemmerman 44)

SOUTHEND (0) 1 (Clark 70)

Att 6,141

Cardiff Dibble 7, Jones 7, Muller 7, Tong 6, Bodin 6, Bennett 6, G7 Bennett 6, Gibbons 7, Hatton 7, Hemmerman 6, ★LEWIS 9, Southend, Cavston 6, Stead 6, Hadley 6, May 6, Moody 6, Clark 6, Pountney 6, ★PHILLIPS 7, Owers 6, Graves 6, Nelson 5 Referee D W Civil (Birmingham) Match Rating ★★★★

EXETER (0) 1 (Gibson 57)

BRENTFORD (3) 7 (Kemara 3, 74, Joseph 14, 62, Cessells 18, 60, Roberts 68)

Att 2,759

Exeter Bond 6, Viney 4, Sparrow 4 (sub Kellow 4), Phillips 4, ★GIBSON 7, McEwan 5, Nevills 5, Rogers 6, Pratt 4, Delyve 4, Crown 6

Brentford Roche 6, Rowe 6, Spencer 7, McNichol 6, Booker 6, Hurlock 7, Kemara 8, ★JOSEPH 9, Cassells 8, Bowes 6, Roberts 6

Referee C Newson (Shropshire) Match Rating ★★★★

GILLINGHAM (2) 2 (Casciarino 6, 17)

PLYMOUTH (0) 1 (Phillips 80)

Att 3,356

Gillingham (2) 2 (Casciarino 6, 17)

Plymouth (0) 1 (Phillips 80)

Att 3,356

Match Winners

ALAN Massey, of Belfast, and Mark Summerfield of Bedford, will be spending a week's coaching course at the Sandfield Soccer School in Birmingham this summer as a result of winning our March 12 competition.

A Ricoh camera has been won by R. Fenton, of Liverpool, in our April 2 caption writing competition.

The following ten runners-up each receive a Ricoh T-shirt: Paul Darkes, Tamworth; Miss A Darwood, Stoke-on-Trent; Russ Slinger, Morecambe; Peter Welch, Rhondda; F. Carrington, Walsall; David Holmes, Bangor; Keith Wilkinson, Liverpool; Stuart Caldwell, Stafford; Gary Fox, Atherton, Warwicks; Karl Pearson, Rochdale

MATCH FACTS

Cut out and keep

Gillingham: Hillyard 7 Sharpe 7, Adams 6
Sutton 6, Shaw 6, Tydeman 7, Johnson 5
Bowman 6, Weatherly 6, Mehmet 7 (sub
Hornix 6), ***CASCARINO**
Plymouth: Cradgton 7, Nisbet 6, Uzzell 6
Harrison 6, Smith 7, Cooper 6, ***HODGES**
8, Phillips 7, Dennis 6 (sub Rowe 6)
Staniforth 6 Rogers 7
Referee: D Letts (Aldershot)
Match Rating: ★★★

HUDDERSFIELD (2) 3 Stanton 11 Russell
18, Brown, pen 58)
READING (1) 1 (Price 39)
Att 10,885
Huddersfield: Cox 8, Brown 7, Burke 7
***STANTON** 8, Stonehouse 6, Harvey 7
Lillis 7 Doyle 7, Russell 7 Wilson 6 Cowling
6 (sub Pugh)
Reading: ***JUDGE** 8, Williams 6 (sub
Barnes 6), Richardson 6, Beavon 7, Hicks 6
White 6 Earles 7 Price 6, Dixon 6, Basen 6,
Sanchez 6
Referee: R Chadwick (Darwen)
Match Rating: ★★★★

MILLWALL (2) 3 (Neal 5, 48 Bremner 15)
DONCASTER (0) 0
Att 4,288
Millwall: Wells 7 Lovell 8, Stride 7, Madden
7 Nutton 7 Cusack 7 ***BREMNER** 9, Neal
8 Stewart 8, Orlakowski 8 Martin 6 (sub
Rob neon)
Doncaster: ***PEACOCK** 7, Allenson 5,
Johnson 8, Russell 5, Humphries 6, Lister 5
Walker 5, Cawthorne 6, Douglas 6 Snodin 1
6 Mann 5
Referee: T D Spencer (Salford)
Match Rating: ★★★★
Sending Off: Russell (Doncaster)

OXFORD (1) 2 (Lawrence 41, Thomas 65)
WIGAN (0) 0
Att 4,595
Oxford: Hardwick 6, Fogg 6, Smithers 8,
Barnett 7 Briggs 7, Shotton 6, Jones 7
***THOMAS** 8, Vinter 6, Lawrence 7, Brock 7
Wigan: Tunke 8, Langley 6, Weston 6, Barrow
6 ***WALSH** 7, Mathew 6, Sheldon 6 (sub
Houghton 6), Cribbley 6, Lowe 6, O Keeffe 6
Butler 6
Referee: J A Moulas (Orge)
Match Rating: ★★★

PORTRMOUTH (1) 4 (Dillon 5, 78 Rogers
60, Biley 73)
CHESTERFIELD (0) 0
Att 13,003
Portsmouth: Knight 6, Ellis 6, Sullivan 5,
Doyle 6, Ta 6, Axlewood 6, Webb 6, Dillon 7
Rafferty 6 (sub Morgan) Biley 7 ***ROGERS**

Chesterfield: Turner 6, Kendal 5, Pollard 5
***KOWALSKI** 7, Green 6, Bellamy 6,
Plummer 5, Owen 6, Gooding 5, Henderson 6
(sub Partridge), Windridge 5
Referee: B H Daniels (Brentwood)
Match Rating: ★★★

PRESTON (0) 2 (Hinching 67, Sayer 80)
ORIENT (1) 1 (Foster 25)
Att 5,628
Preston: Hodge 8, ***HINNINGAN** 9,
McAteer 6, O'Riordan 6, Booth 7, Lodge 8,
Sayer 8, Gowling 6 (sub Houston), Elliott 7
Naughton 6, Bell 7
Orient: ***DAY** 8, Roffey 7 Price 7, Gray 7
Foster 7, Cornwell 7, Silkman 7, Godfrey 6
(sub Smith), Houchen 7 Kitchen 7 McNeil 7
Referee: J M Key (Rotherham)
Match Rating: ★★★

SHEFFIELD UNITED (0) 2 (Edwards 67
Towner 88)
BRADFORD (1) 1 (Campbell 40)
Att 9,375
Sheff Utd: Waugh 7, Garner 6, Charles 6,
Richardson 6 (sub ***CURRAN** 8) West 6,
Houston 7, Towner 7, Trusson 7 Edwards 7
Morris 7, Braze 6
Bradford: Ramsbottom 7, Podd 7, Watson 6,
McCall 6, Jackson 6, Cherry 7, Black 6,
Cavener 6 (sub Mellor), ***CAMPBELL** 8,
Ellis 6, Chapman 5
Referee: M Midgley (Salford)
Match Rating: ★★★

WALSALL (1) 2 (O Kelly 33, Shakespeare 71)
NEWPORT (0) 1 (Tynan, pen 90)
Att 6,151
Walsall: Kearns 8 Caswell 7, Mower 7,
Shakespeare 7, Sinnott 8, Hart 7, Rees 7
***PREECE** 9, Kearns 0,7 Buckley 7, O Kelly
8
Newport: ***KENDALL** 9, Jones 7, Relish 7
(sub Reid 7), Boyle 7, Oaks 8, Stroud 7
Lowndes 7 Aldridge 7 Tynan 7 Vaughan 7
Eley 8
Referee: A Robinson (Redcliffe)
Match Rating: ★★★★

Division Four

ALDERSHOT (3) 6 (Senior 35, 40, 65)
Barton 44, 73, 81)
***ROCHDALE** (1) 4 (Farrell 25, 55, Hirditch 50
Thompson 90)
Att 1,851
Aldershot: Johnson 6 Scott 4 Gillard 4
Briley 7, Whitlock 4, Jopling 4 Lucas 6,
Banton 8 ***SENIOR** 9, McDonald 7
Robinson 4
Rochdale: Crawford 6, Greenhoff 8, Carr
4, ***FARRELL** 8, Taylor 8, Williams 5,
Thompson 7, Hamilton 5 (sub Greaves 5),
French 6, Greenhoff 7, Hirditch 7
Referee: R Milford (Bristol)
Match Rating: ★★★★

BRISTOL CITY (0) 2 (Breckin, og 55, Nicholls
63)
***BURRY** (1) 1 (Johnson 1)
Att 5,298
Bristol City: Shaw 7 Newman 7 Williams 6,
Nicholls 7 Phillipson Masters 6, Riley 7,
Ritchie 7 Williams, P 6, ***COOPER** 8 (sub
Kelly 6), Economou 7, Crawford 8
Bury: Brown 7, Gardner 6, Brechin 6, Hilton
6 Bramhall 7, Hilliday 6, Cantello 7 (sub
Parker 6), Madden 6, ***JOHNSON** 8, Jakub
7, Potts 6
Referee: J C Deakin (Bedford)
Match Rating: ★★★

HARTEPOOL (1) 1 (Dobson 3)
***SWINDON** (1) 2 (Rideout, pen 35, 73)
Att 1,126
Hartlepool: Blackburn 7, Smithies 6,
Stimpson 5, Smith 6, Bird 6, ***LININGHAM** 8,
Brown 5, Stewart 4 (sub Linacre 7), Staff 5,
Dobson 6, Robinson 7
Swindon: Allan 6, Ball 6, Baddeley 6, Batty
6, Lewis 7, Graham 5, Pritchard 7, Barnard 6
***RIDEOUT** 8, Rowland 6, Hughes 6
Referee: A Challinor (Maliby)
Match Rating: ★★

HULL (1) 1 (Askey 25)
***CREWE** (0) 0
Att 7,231
Hull: Norman 6, Hughes 7, Swann 6, Roberts
6, ***SKIPPER** 9, Askey 7, Marwood 6,
McClaren 5, Flounders 5 (sub Whitehurst 6),
Mutrie 7, Roberts, G 8
Crewe: ***SMITH** 8, Brady 6, Bowers 6,
Edwards 5, Scott 7, Hart 6, Chapman 6,
Bencroft 6 (sub Haslegrave 7), Waller 6
Walker 6, Glass 7
Referee: G Courtney (Spennymoor)
Match Rating: ★★

NORTHAMPTON (1) 2 (Sandy 2, Massey 47)
***HEREFORD** (0) 1 (Price 65)
Att 2,071
Northampton: Gleasur 7, Tucker 6, Phillips
6, Gage 6, ***BURROWS** 8, Heeley 5 (sub
Denyer 6), Jeffrey 7, Buchanen 6, Sandy 6,
Syrett 6, Massey 7
Hereford: Wilmot 6, Price 7, Bartley 6, Pejic
6, Larkin 7, Maddy 6, ***HARVEY** 8, Sperring
6, Phillips 6, Carter 7, Showers 6
Referee: C Downey (Hounslow)
Match Rating: ★★★

PETERBOROUGH (0) 1 (Union 53)
***DARLINGTON** (0) 1 (Walsh 58)
Att 2,185
Peterborough: Seaman 6, Winters 5, Collins
5, Gynn 7, Firm 6, ***SLACK** 8, Clarke 5,
Rodaway 6, Chard 6, Benjamin 6, Linton 7,
Darlington 7 Barber 7, Kamera 6, Liddle 5
(sub Young), Smith 6, ***BARTON** 8,
Cartwright 6, McLean 7, Gilbert 6, Todd 7,
Walsh 7, Honour 6
Referee: T Bunn (Yattondon)
Match Rating: ★★

SCUNTHORPE (1) 4 (Cowling 30, 80)
Carmack pen 64, 80)
***BLACKPOOL** (2) 3 (McNiven 5, 42, Greenall
78)
Att 2,791
Scunthorpe: Neenan 6, Keeley 6 (sub Oates
7), Pointon 7, Boxell 6, Barnes 6, Hunter 7,
Graham 8, ***CAMMACK** 8, Cowling 7,
Lester 7, Leman 6
Blackpool: Hesford 6, Bardsley 7, Prichard 6,
***DEARY** 8, Hetzke 6, Greenall 7, Hockaday
6, McNiven 7, Stewart 7, Noble 6, Pashley 6
Referee: V G Callow (Solihull)
Match Rating: ★★★★

TORQUAY (1) 3 (Gallagher 35, Bishop 51
Little pen 68)
***MANSFIELD** (1) 1 (Ayre 13)
Att 1,546
Torquay: Horn 8, Doyle 6, Holmes 6, James
7, ***LITTLE** 8, Jones 8, Bishop 6, Carter 6,
Cooper 7, Anderson 6, Gallagher 6

Mansfield: Arnold 6, Woodhead 6, Kearney 6,
Matthews 6, ***AYRE** 7, Calderwood 6, Bell
5, Hutchinson 6, Dungworth 5, Sindall 6,
Nicholson 6 (sub Kennedy)
Referee: L Burden (Dorset)
Match Rating: ★★★★
Sendings Off: Cooper (Torquay), Kearney
(Mansfield)

***TRANMERE** (1) 1 (Kerr 1)
***HALIFAX** (1) 2 (Spooner 17, pen 64)
Att 1,401
Transmere: Endersby 6, Mathies 6, Burgess 8,
***MUNGALL** 7, Leonard 6, Palios 5,
Ferguson 6, Kerr 6, Wellings 6, Brown 6,
Griffiths 6 (sub Powell)
Halifax: Smelt 7, Nobbs 6, Wood 6, Evans 7,
Smith 6, Hendrie 6, Gallagher 7
***SPOONER** 8, Allatt 6, Ward 6, Staniforth
8
Referee: T Fitzharris (Bolton)
Match Rating: ★★★

***ST MURREN** (1) 4 (McAvennie 44, 52, 70,
McDougall 46)
***MOTHERWELL** (0) 0
Att 3,257
***St Murren**: Thomson 6, Wilson 7, Clarke 6,
Richardson 6, Fulton 7, McCormick 7,
McEachran 6, ***MC AVENIE** 8, McDougall
7, Abercromby 6, Wardrobe 5
***Motherwell**: Walker 6, ***DORNAN** 7, Flave 1,
5, Wark 5, Edvaldsson 5, Coyne 5 (sub
Forstv 6), Gehagan 6, Rafferty 6, Harrow 5
(sub Cormack 4), McClair 8, O'Hara 5
Referee: J Duncan (Gorebridge)
Match Rating: ★★★

First Division

***ALLOA** (0) 1 (Garner, pen 49)
***HEARTS** (1) 1 (MacDonald, A 43)
Att 2,395

***CLYDEBANK** (0) 2 (Murray 74, McKeown
87)
***AIRDRIE** (0) 0
Att 657

***DUNFERMLINE** (0) 0
***CLYDE** (0) 0
Att 1,420

***HAMILTON** (1) 1 (McLaughlin 3)
***AYR** (0) 0
Att 852

***QUEEN'S PARK** (0) 0
***PARTICK** (1) 1 (Johnston 44)
Att 1,827

***RAITH** (0) 0
***PARTICK** (2) 3 (Herd 14, Jobson 24, Forrest
89)
Att 700

***ST JOHNSTONE** (0) 1 (Gibson 89)
***DUMBARTON** (0) 0
Att 2,317

Second Division

Premier Division

***ABERDEEN** (1) 1 (McGhee 33)
***CELTIC** (0) 0
Att 2,500
Aberdeen: Leighton 8, Cooper 8, McLaren 7,
***MILLER** 9, Rougvie 8, Strachan 8,
McMaster 6, Watson 8, McGhee 8, Hewitt 8
(sub Falconer 6), Weir 7 (sub Simpson 6),
Celtic: Bonner 7, McGrain 7, Aitken 7,
McAdam 6, Reid 6 (sub Moyes 6), MacLeod
6, ***PROVAN** 8, McStay 7, Nicholes 7,
McGarvey 6 (sub McCluskey), Burns 6
Referee: A Ferguson (Glasgow)
Match Rating: ★★★

***DUNDEE UNITED** (4) 4 (Stark 13, 33, Holt
20, Sturrock 39)
***KILMARNOCK** (0) 0
Att 7,516
Dundee Utd: McAlpine 7, ***STARK** 9,
Malpas 7, Kirkwood 8, Hegarty 8, Narey 8,
Bannon 8, Milne 8, Holt 7 (sub Britton 7),
Sturrock 7, Dodds 8
Kilmarnock: McCulloch 6, ***MCLEAN** 7,
Clark 6, Clark 5, Armstrong 5 (sub
McDicken 6), Clarke 5, McGivern 5, MacLeod
5, Eddie 5, Simpson 5, Mur 6 (sub Gallagher
6)

Referee: E C Hewitt (Edinburgh)
Match Rating: ★★★

***HIBERNIAN** (0) 0
***DUNDEE** (0) 0
Att 4,000
Hibs: Rough 7, Sneddon 6, Duncan 6, Brazil
7, Welsh 6, Turnbull 4, Callaghan 5, Rice 7,
Irvine 6 (sub Jamieson). ***THOMSON** 8,
Harvey 6 (sub McCurdy 5)
Dundee: ***KELLY** 8, McGahey 5,
McKinnon 5, Fraser 7, Smith 6, McDonald 6,
Mackie 6, McGregor 7, Sinclair 5, Stephen
6, Kidd 6 (sub Bell)
Referee: C White (Glasgow)
Match Rating: ★★★

RANGERS (1) 2 (MacDonald 24, Redford 84)
***MORTON** (0) 0
Att 9,000
Rangers: McCloy 7, Dawson 6, McPherson 7,
Paterson 6, McClelland 6, ***RUSSELL** 8
(sub Redford 5), Bett 6, McKinnon 6, Prytz 4
(sub Cooper 5), Clark 5, MacDonald 6,
Morton, Barnes 6, Hayes 5, ***MC LAUGHLIN**
7, Duffy 6, Rooney 6, Payne 6, Cochrane 4
(sub Gavaghan 4), Holmes 4, McNab 4 (sub
McNeil 5), Hutchinson 4, Houston 5
Referee: T Murhead (Stenhousemuir)
Match Rating: ★★★

(League, Cups, Total)

Division One

Rush (Liverpool)	24	4	28
Bissett (Watford)	23	3	28
Latchford (Swansea)	19	4	23
Woodcock (Arsenal)	14	7	21
Wark (Ipswich)	18	3	21
Deehan (Norwich)	19	1	20
Dalglish (Liverpool)	18	1	19
Withe (Aston Villa)	16	2	18
Rowell (Sunderland)	16	2	18

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS

BOLTON WANDERERS

Saturday 16 April 1983

Kick off: 3.00 pm

WOLVES

WOLVES have the best programme in the Football League.

That's the verdict of the Football League Commercial Managers Association's panel who have voted it the 'Programme of the Year'.

It's the first time a Second Division club has received the award, and it comes just a few months after the very existence of the famous club was threatened.

European Cup holders Aston Villa were second with Tottenham third and the two Manchester clubs filling fourth and fifth, with City pipping United for a change.

In addition to the main trophy, Wolves won the Division Two award, followed by Sheffield Wednesday and Leicester. Brentford took the Third Division

trophy from Reading and Bristol Rovers and, in the Fourth, it was Colchester at the top from Wimbledon and Bristol City.

Although Manchester United finished fifth overall, they in fact took the First Division honour, the voting system being different in the divisional awards.

The awards are chosen by a panel of nine and includes League representatives, supporters, a printer and a journalist.

Awards chairman Albert Moss, the Reading commercial manager, says: "We were most impressed with the content and design of the Wolves programme, which shows that chairman Derek Dougan and his management team are determined to forge a new and close relationship with the fans."

"What the judges looked for was

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None of the other clubs received any votes.

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PROGRAMME PARADE



Wolves general manager Eric Woodward holds the giant 'Programme of the Year' trophy and shares a joke with Manchester United manager Ron Atkinson. Also on the picture are (left to right) Graham Hawkins (manager), Derek Dougan (Chairman and chief executive), Roger Hipkiss (director) and former Wolves manager Stan Cullis, who made the presentation.

ASK THE EXPERT

BURNLEY fan Alex Carter has asked us to value three of his programmes, including the 1947 Burnley v Charlton FA Cup Final at Wembley.

That's worth in the region of £25 and the Semi-Final clash with Liverpool that year is fetching around £12.

The 1962 FA Cup Final programme between Tottenham and Burnley is less valuable at around £4. Other valuations.

■ 1965 Scotland v England (£2.50),
1966 Northern Ireland v England (£1.25)

and 1981 Bayern Munich v Liverpool (£1) — Richard Sullivan, Ormskirk, Lancs.

■ 1968/69 Burnley v Swindon, League Cup Semi-Final (£3.50) — D. Boulton, Corsham, Wilts.

■ 1957 Everton v Liverpool (£5p), 1965 Liverpool v Inter-Milan (£5), 1966 FA Cup Final (£3.75) — Kirk Wheeler, Swindon.

■ 1972 England v West Germany (£85p) and 1969 Newcastle v Ujpest Dozsa, Fairs Cup Final, First Leg (£2.75) — Robert Williams, Bristol

FAIRS

● Sunday, May 1 — Hereford United Fair, The Starlight Room, The Social Club, Edgar Street, Hereford (10.30 am to 2 pm).

● Saturday, May 7 — Liverpool Programme Club Fair, Supporters Club, Lower Breck Road, Liverpool (11 am to 1 pm).

● Sunday, May 15 — Southampton FC Fair, The Dell, Southampton (10.30 am to 2 pm). Second annual Chelsea Programme Fair, Fulham Town Hall (opposite Fulham Broadway Underground), Fulham Road, London SW6.

● Sunday, May 22 — Watford FC Fair Vicarage Road, Watford (10.30 am to 2 pm). The Wigan Fair, Wigan Scout Centre, Greenough Street, Wigan (11 am to 4 pm).

● Sunday, May 29 — Slough Town FC Fair, Wexham Park Stadium, Wexham Road, Slough (10.30 am to 2.30 pm).

Please check that these fairs are still on before setting out from home. Organisers should contact Match if any fairs are cancelled.

SWOPS

OFFER: 1979-80 Osters (Sweden) v Nottingham Forest, 1971 Liverpool's 'Road to Wembley' official team souvenir, 15 Carlisle programmes from 1977

WANTS: 1976 Bayern Munich v St Etienne (European Cup Final), 1971 Liverpool v Middlesbrough or 1974 FA Cup Final.

Martin Anderson, 75 Durham Road, Middle Herrington, Sunderland.

OFFER: 1980-81 Newcastle v Blackburn, Wimbledon v Doncaster, Norwich v Liverpool, Leicester v Man. City and Luton v Watford

WANTS: 1980-81 Darlington v Northampton, Stockport, Tranmere and York.

Malcolm Kirby, 2 Haggerston Court, Etal Park Estate, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

SPOTLIGHT ON ASTON VILLA'S

Colin Gibson

FULL NAME: Colin John Gibson.
BIRTHPLACE/DATE: Bridport/April 6, 1960.
HEIGHT/WEIGHT: 5ft 6ins/10st 8lbs.
MARRIED: Yes, to Kim.
CHILDREN: One expected in May.
CAR: Toyota Celica 2000XT.
PREVIOUS CLUB: Portsmouth.
NICKNAME AT CLUB: 'Gibbo'.
WORST EVER INJURY: Pelvic strain in February '82 which kept me out for four months.
FAVOURITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYER AND WHY: Bryan Robson — he has all that you could want in an English player.
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Chelsea.
FAVOURITE FOREIGN PLAYER AND WHY: Pele — he was the best.
BEST ALL-TIME BRITISH TEAM: England's 1966 World Cup winning side.
ALL-TIME INTERNATIONAL XI: Brazil's 1982 World Cup side...with Pele in place of Serginho.
FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND: White Hart Lane.
FAVOURITE FOREIGN STADIUM AT WHICH YOU HAVE PLAYED: Nou Camp, Barcelona.
BEST GOAL SCORED: A header following a good move against Watford earlier this season.
BEST GOAL SEEN SCORED: Trevor Brooking for West Ham against us at Villa Park last season when he chipped Jimmy Rimmer after five minutes. (We won 3-2!).
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Playing at Wembley for the first time in the Charity Shield match against Tottenham and my England U-21 debut against Norway last season.
OWN MAGIC MOMENT IN FOOTBALL: Being part of Villa's League Championship winning team and collecting my medal.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Not playing in the European Cup Final victory.
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Snooker and golf.

MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Winning.
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Inconsistent referees, ignorant and rude people, losing.
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Sports programmes, detective programmes and Cannon and Ball.
TV SHOW YOU ALWAYS SWITCH OFF: Crossroads, Coronation Street and Emmerdale Farm.
FAVOURITE READING: Sports magazines.
FAVOURITE POP STARS: Police, Dire Straits, George Benson.
FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak, lamb and foreign dishes.
FAVOURITE DRINK: Milk or lager.
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Malta.
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Burt Reynolds, Clint Eastwood/ Jacqueline Bissett.
BEST FRIEND: My dog Belle — she always agrees with me — and I hope I have a few more.
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Frank Upton, Ron Saunders, the coaching staff at Aston Villa and my wife's family.
WHAT DON'T YOU LIKE ABOUT FOOTBALL: Bad referees who don't use common sense.
SUPERSTITIONS: I always go out onto the pitch third.
PRE-MATCH MEAL: Fillet steak.
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: One Under-21 cap.
PERSONAL AMBITION: To have a happy life with my wife and, hopefully, future family.
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To be successful and play for my country.
CAREER AFTER PLAYING: I hope to go into a business of my own — possibly catering.
PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: Mark Walters at Aston Villa.
WHO WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET: The Queen and Royal family...but most of all my unborn baby.
ADVICE TO YOUNGSTERS: Listen and learn from people more experienced than yourself.



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HOW CAN FOOTBALL BE SO CRUEL?

ARSENAL'S CUP AGONY

ENGLAND HEARTBREAK

LEFT out by England just three days after an FA Cup Semi-Final defeat... how can I begin to describe my feelings after such a nightmare experience?

To say that I was shattered and disappointed would be a savage understatement... it was more a state of disbelief that football could be so cruel.

Crashing at the very last hurdle before Wembley is hard enough to accept, but then to be overlooked by your country for the most important match since the World Cup Finals, well, that's almost impossible to swallow.

I don't think I've felt so downhearted and low since my penalty miss in Brussels three years ago which cost Arsenal the European Cup Winners' Cup against Valencia.

I realise I didn't set the world on fire when I came on as substitute in last month's disappointing goalless draw with Greece, but it's not easy to make an impression in 15 minutes.

You can't take things for granted in football, but even so, I felt I would retain my place in the original squad despite the expected return of Manchester United pair Bryan Robson and Ray Wilkins.

In the last month or two, I believe I have produced some of the best form of my career.

I couldn't believe it when I turned on the television to find my name not included in the twenty-strong squad for the Hungary clash, although there is a real battle for places in the England midfield. Remember that Tottenham's Glenn Hoddle is still in the wings.

It was some consolation when I was brought into the squad as a late addition, but just to prove how cruel soccer can be, I pulled a hamstring at Norwich the same night to leave my England chances once more hanging in the balance.

Football is a game of highs and lows as former Arsenal goalkeeper Bob Wilson keeps reminding me.

Lows outnumber the highs, but those highs are sweet when they come along.

But football fortunes can change like the weather. Last

year I wasn't considered for a place in England's World Cup squad until my second half performance as a substitute against Holland.

When I went to Spain I didn't expect to play, yet I figured in every game.

So that proves that fortune can smile on you when you least expect it.

It's now up to me to keep battling away in the hope of getting back into the England squad, either for the clash with Scotland or for the summer tours.

That England axe completed my double agony. A few days earlier, my dreams of a fourth FA Cup Final appearance in six years was shattered at Villa Park.

We had no real complaints in the end. Manchester United deserved their second passport to Wembley this season, but we fought our hearts out even though we didn't produce the kind of football we are capable of.

It was my first defeat in an FA Cup Semi-Final, and, just as I had expected, it was an awful experience.

The dressing room resembled a morgue as manager Terry Neill and coach Don Howe analysed the goals we had conceded in the second half. They couldn't say much more because they knew we had given our best and that on the day it wasn't good enough.

There we were at half-time, leading 1-0 and just 45 minutes away from those twin towers.

But we duly gave away a silly goal four minutes into the second half that Bryan Robson despatched and, from that moment, I could see our Wembley dreams gradually drifting away.

We had created nothing in the first half yet, going in at half-time leading by that scrambled Tony Woodcock goal, I wondered whether it was going to be our lucky day.

But once we had given Bryan that chance so early in the second half, United stepped up a gear and when Norman Whiteside thundered home that brilliant goal, I couldn't see us clawing ourselves back into the fight.

You couldn't fault our fighting

qualities and attitude, but possibly we were a little unprofessional when we had possession, and didn't produce the kind of football we should have done.

People have said that the turning point came when young Stewart Robson limped off at half-time with an ankle injury and we had to re-organise our side.

He had done a tremendous marking job on his United namesake in the first half as did Brian Talbot on the other England man, Ray Wilkins.

But I believe it was that early equaliser that rocked us. If we could have quelled United's fire for ten or 15 minutes, then we might have hung on.

I started the match as a makeshift striker alongside Tony Woodcock because of the absence of Alan Sunderland.

With all due respect to the replacements, we missed Alan's sharpness and enthusiasm up front, and Peter Nicholas' strength and organisational powers in midfield.

On the other hand, United were without two of their most creative players in Arnold Muhren and Steve Coppell and the news of their injuries gave our pre-match preparations a real boost.

But, as it turned out, Arnold's stand-in, Ashley Grimes, was one of United's best players. It wasn't a surprise to me because I have always had a healthy respect for the Eire international.

Hopefully there will be more chances of Wembley finals during the rest of my career, but my heart went out to John Hollins, who saw his last chance of a Final with Arsenal drift away.

Graham Rix

● Graham Rix was talking to Melvyn Beck.

THE GRAHAM RIX COLUMN

The Arsenal midfielder talks about his double disappointment... and his determination to bounce back.



IF football disappears from our TV screens next season, I won't be sorry to hear less of some soccer commentators.

Some of the picking fault with players and us on how the game should be played.

How do the critics professionalise what it's like to play for 90 minutes under great pressure and they don't know Liverpool,
Dan Watson,
Merseyside

supporter, I was

AS a Spurs fan, I was disappointed by Glenn Hoddle's approach to the club. He leaves White Hart Lane, To

If Hoddle replaces him. They will hard to replace him. They will miss his outstanding talent and genius.

midfield season has been a disaster for Spurs. But if Hoddle could Elliott, Fulham, London.

This season the team avoids the injury list that has plagued winning ways in 1984.

Vicki ELD like to thank Malcolm

naid, the Fulham WOUjer, for allowing my friend Macdonald interview him for our magazine.

and I thought Malcolm has a very school schedule, he made time for

At question him about busy promotion push, football in general and his own career and experiences in the game

I was lucky enough to be able to photograph him. It was a really great day and one I will remember for a long time.

A. Ward, Putney, London.

CONGRATULATIONS to Micky Droy in his testimonial season. What a great example he is to young football players.

Micky has stayed loyal to Chelsea through thick and thin. His play is always of a high standard and he holds the

TERRACE TALK



Micky Droy — sets a great example to young players.

Chelsea team together.

It's a pity that Micky has never won an England cap but I hope Chelsea fans give him the support he deserves in his testimonial game next month.

Keith Hughes, Millwall, London.

• **Micky's testimonial game will be between a Chelsea XI and an all-star international XI and takes place at Stamford Bridge on May 10. Kick-off 7.30.**

ESSEX reader Philip Castle and Burnley's Eileen Seikeld consider that North and South are united in declaring Glenn Hoddle 'the schoolkids' favourite player' following their classroom polls

In Bradford, Glenn didn't get a

WELCOME to the best read letters page in football... with unique prizes for every reader who gets his or her letter published.

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Plus we will be giving a prize of £10 for what we consider to be the star letter of the week and, of course, the sender will also receive a 'Terrace Talk' badge.

So get those letters coming in NOW and you could be the envy of your friends.

Write to: Michael Weavers, 'Terrace Talk' Editor, Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.



mention in my classroom poll.

The result was:

- 1 Sammy Lee (Liverpool) — six votes.
- 2 Arthur Graham (Leeds) — 4 votes.
- 3 Terry Gray (Bradford) — 3 votes.
- 3 Kenny Dalglish (Liverpool) — 3 votes.
- 5 Bobby Campbell (Bradford) — 2 votes.

Nicholas Taylor, Bradford, West Yorkshire.

BEFORE the FA Cup Quarter-Final between Manchester United and Everton, United manager Ron Atkinson received a 'manager of the month' award. All I can say is that he is the last person who deserves such an award.

All Atkinson has done since he joined United is brag and spend fortunes on players. Where are the trophies to justify Atkinson's spending spree? The fact is that he has won nothing... yet.

My advice to the United board is to get rid of Atkinson before he bankrupts the club.

Finally, I would like to console Everton following their Cup defeat against United — a match they thoroughly deserved to win.

Robert Barnes, Carlisle, Cumbria.

I AM writing to complain about International Hotline. It lacks news of who leads the various leagues abroad.

Julie Jerrams, Tile Cross, Birmingham.

• **THEN you haven't looked at our last two issues which carried up-to-date European league tables. Pay attention!**

LIVERPOOL striker David Fairclough may at last lose the tag of 'Supersub' following his appearance late on in the Milk Cup Final against Manchester United.

David earned the label with some spectacular late winners for the Anfield team after coming on as substitute. But there was little evidence of that in the Milk Cup Final...

He had four excellent chances as the match went into extra-time but the ginger-haired striker squandered the lot. It's lucky for Liverpool that the match was already in the bag.

Victor Butchers, Stone, Kent.

• **David made up for it against Manchester City the following week by scoring two.**



The "lovely" legs of Liverpool star Ian Rush... just for Sue Tsang! (See letter below).

WOULD it be too much to ask you to print a colour pin-up of Liverpool's Ian Rush in the centre pages of a forthcoming issue of your wonderful, superb (grovel, grovel, creep, creep) magazine?

Then can I stick it up on my wall swooning and drooling over it all day. I think Ian and Steve Coppell have the loveliest legs in the business.

The nearest you came to an Ian Rush pin-up was the December 11 issue, when you used a picture of Ian (in a not very flattering position) sliding along the ground, being tackled by Notts County's Tristam Benjamin. So please let me have an Ian Rush poster.

Sue Tsang (16), Worthing, West Sussex.

• **AT the risk of sending Sussex schoolgirls into a swoon, an Ian Rush poster is being pencilled in for the near future.**

GOLDEN GOOF

"DID Norman Whiteside score a spectacular own goal in the Milk Cup Final or did Gary Bailey and Bruce Grobbelaar swap sides?" asks Mansel Doward of Glanaman, Dyfed, who spotted this Golden Goof.

It has been said that milk turns quicker than Whiteside, but there are better places to be than behind his back!

He took his time turning, but the strength was there and the resultant right footed shot sped low past Bailey, to secure the lead for United.

IT'S A FARCE!



IT is about time that the loan system currently in operation in the League is scrapped. It is a complete farce.

When it was brought into operation, the idea, surely, was to allow players who are unsettled or unsure of a first team place to play for a different team on trial before signing for them at the end of the loan period.

However, how many of the loans this season have resulted in a permanent transfer? Of over a hundred players to go on loan, only a handful have signed a full contract at their new club.

The system is being used to help clubs with team problems. Although you cannot blame them for this, it is unfair on the players, who are being exploited.

The only way to deal with the problem is to scrap the system altogether or to place a limit on the number of players loaned-out each season.

Julian Escott (15), Bournemouth, Hants.

SPOTLIGHT on the little-known Scottish youngster making a big impression at Elland Road . . .

ONE-TIME 'bad boy' John Donnelly is hoping that his move to Leeds will finally bury his trouble-torn past.

Following his £30,000 transfer from Scottish club Dumbarton, the talented midfield player declared: "I'm a reformed character."

As a teenager John earned himself a bad reputation and was often in hot water with managers and coaches.

The 22-year-old explains: "I had completely the wrong attitude towards the game and could never take things seriously. My discipline was terrible."

"I never listened to advice and wasn't prepared to work at my game. I was very lazy and as a result often got into trouble with the manager and coaches."

It was when Billy Lamont took charge at Dumbarton about two years ago that John's attitude began to change. "He had a big influence on me and helped me get over the problem."

"He kept telling me I had the ability to make it to the top if I worked harder, but said I would end up on the scrapheap if I carried on as I was."

"Eventually the message got through to me, made my mind up to start taking the game seriously and put in a lot more effort. And it seems to have paid off."

"I was young and inexperienced then but I've



John Donnelly (right) in action for Leeds against Burnley — he was warned he could end up on the scrap heap.

JOHNNY-BE-GOOD! 'BAD BOY' DONNELLY SEES THE LIGHT..!

I learned a lot and now the future looks rosy again."

John began his career in England with Notts County, who were in the Second Division at the time. He spent a year at the Nottingham club as an apprentice before returning north of the border.

"I never settled in at County and was very homesick," he recalls. "After about a year, I asked the club if they would release me and they agreed."

"I was only 17 at the time and looking back I realise I was too young and should never really have moved away from home."

Following his release by Notts County John joined Motherwell and played a full season in the Scottish Premier Division at the age of 17.

"It was a great experience and I really enjoyed it," he says. "I felt I played well and was picked to play for the Scottish Youth team at one stage."

"Unfortunately the game against West Germany coincided with a Motherwell League match and the manager, Ally MacLeod would not release me."

"I was very annoyed about that and it still

ranks as the biggest disappointment of my career, especially as I was never picked again."

It wasn't long after that John left Motherwell and he blames his 'couldn't care less' attitude for the club's decision to sell him. "I think Ally MacLeod got fed up with me," he says.

"He gave me chance after chance, but I kept letting him down. My attitude was always my problem, but I'm over that now and determined to make the most of this latest opportunity."

John's form in the Dumbarton side this season attracted interest from several clubs north and south of the border — but it was Leeds manager Eddie Gray who was the first to come in with a firm offer.

"The first I knew of Leeds' interest was when I received a phone call from Billy Lamont, who said that Eddie Gray wanted me to go down to Elland Road for a week's trial," he says.

"Leeds had always been my favourite English side as a youngster so it seemed like an ideal move for me."

"I spent a week at the club getting to know the players and I was really impressed with the set-up. So I was delighted when Eddie agreed to sign me the week after."

"I had no regrets about leaving Dumbarton,

but it was a difficult decision to make in view of the fact that I would be leaving my family and friends in Scotland."

"There has always been a strong Scottish connection at Leeds and that was one of the things that influenced my decision to sign."

"With there being a number of Scottish players at the club they knew how I would feel about coming to a strange place and everyone has gone out of their way to make me feel welcome," says John who made his debut for Leeds, two days after signing, in the 2-1 win at home to Blackpool on March 9.

"It's always difficult settling into a new side but I've been well pleased with all of my performances so far."

"The fact that the side has been playing well helped me and hopefully I can maintain my form for the rest of the season."

John is hoping that his move south of the border will boost his chances of gaining international honours in the not too distant future.

"As I've discovered in just a short time at Leeds, players tend to get more recognition down here than in the Scottish League," he says.

"I know I've got the ability to play at the highest level and I think playing in England will help me realise my ambition."

OFFER: Football stickers from 1979, '80 and '81.

WANTS: Any Liverpool programmes, autographs or pennants.

Garod Barker, Flat 2, 16 Eton Road, London NW3.

OFFER: Liverpool home top (30 ins.).

WANTS: Hamilton Academical home top (30 ins.).

Peter Robertson, 51 Holyrood Walk, Corby, Northants.

OFFER: Leicester City silk scarf and pennant.

WANTS: Any 1980-81 Ipswich

programmes — home or away. Andrew Seaman, 118 The Headlands, Northampton.

OFFER: Pair of Gola football boots (size three, screw-in studs) only worn twice.

WANTS: Programmes in good condition.

Rodney Ellis, 8 York Place, Portsmouth, Hants.

OFFER: Size three boots, giant

poster of Ray Wilkins and Graeme Souness.

WANTS: A signed Manchester United team picture.

Brendan Woodhouse, 26 Berkshire Road, Bishopston, Bristol 7.

OFFER: Coventry poster (autographed), Coventry scarf, sweat bands and old style top (36-38).

WANTS: Spurs scarf, sweat

bands and hat.
Crispin Cole, 6 Wingfield Way, Keresley, Coventry CV6 2NQ.

OFFER: Size 5½ boots.
WANTS: Wales shorts and socks (large boys or youth).
George Hughes, 85 Ashwood Road, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin.

OFFER: New Manchester United 'Sharp' top (home colours size 30-32).

WANTS: New Manchester City 'Saab' top (white) size 32-34.
Paul Deacon, 38 Chedlee Drive, Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire.

COVENTRY'S cash crisis may be what shattered the club's European dream.

Reflecting on the dramatic slump which left the club rocking precariously on the edge of the relegation battle, their talented young striker Mark Hateley claims: "You can't blame it all on the players. The club must shoulder its fair share of the responsibility for the recent disasters."

At the beginning of the year it was a completely different story with Coventry being hailed as the surprise team of the season.

They were on the threshold of Europe after their New Year's Day victory at Luton, lying in sixth place, just two points away from the second-placed team, Manchester United.

But then, during the next three months, the Sky Blues bubble burst in alarming fashion.

In 14 League games they managed just one win. Their total return was a paltry eight points from a possible 42, leaving their UEFA Cup hopes in shreds and a staggering 19 points between them and second-placed Watford.

The disaster reached its lowest point when they lost 1-0 at home to relegation-haunted neighbours Birmingham.

One disgruntled fan hurled his Coventry shirt into the dug-out and players were jostled at the final whistle.

It was a sad climax to a week when Coventry's financial problems hit the headlines with chairman Jimmy Hill offering to resign if someone came in with a £250,000 cash injection.

And with the prospect of several of their young prodigies leaving when their contracts expire at the end of the season, the sky over Highfield Road at the moment is more black than sky blue.

England Under-21 international Mark, one of those players who could be on his way from the Midlands club, pinpoints the sale of his former striking partner Garry Thompson to West Brom as one of the reasons for Coventry's sudden demise.

"We realise that Garry was sold for financial reasons, but with such a small first team squad, we couldn't really afford to lose him at that time," says Mark.

"The club shouldn't have got into such deep financial water, but,



Garry Thompson. His move to West Brom has been one of the main reasons for Coventry's slump, says Mark Hateley.

SKY BLUE SLIDE

Don't blame it all on the players — Mark Hateley

as a result, we've had to operate on a limited first team squad for the past two seasons, and that's not easy, especially for manager Dave Sexton.

"Players have had to play when they have either been carrying injuries or been out of form because of the lack of numbers.

"And it's not been good planning on the club's part to have six or seven players with contracts expiring at the same time.

"You try to put thoughts about the future out of your head on the pitch, but at times it can affect your performance without you probably realising it.

"What's happened since Christmas is that most of the players have gone off the boil at the same time.

"We lost a few matches, and got ourselves into a rut.

"And when you are on the slide, it's hard to stop it and get out of the rut.

"Unless the money situation improves at the club, I can't see Coventry ever progressing beyond being an average First Division club.

"They may have to sell players to ease the finances and so one couldn't expect the club to be pushing for honours in the near future."

As yet, Mark doesn't know whether he will be lining up in the Coventry attack next season.

He has rejected the club's initial offer of a new contract, although he has no urgent desire to leave the team that gave him his chance to follow in the professional steps of his famous father Tony.

"I turned down the first offer because they didn't come up with what I expected, and I have my future and family to consider," he says.

"I would like to stay at Coventry providing the terms are right, but football is a business and if you are offered a better living elsewhere, then you have to seriously consider it.

"But I want to stay in the First Division, and hopefully Coventry might come up with something better before very long."

Coventry's position on New Year's Day after 2-1 at Luton.

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	22	9	2	0	37	11	5	3	31	9	94
Man Utd	22	8	3	1	32	10	5	2	21	8	73
Watford	22	8	2	2	32	12	5	3	29	1	70
West Ham	22	8	1	3	26	7	3	2	8	4	67
Coventry	22	8	0	4	22	11	7	4	14	0	57
West Brom	22	7	3	2	28	11	2	2	7	11	22
Aston Villa	22	6	4	2	22	13	3	3	11	2	20
Man City	22	7	3	2	21	10	2	1	8	7	20
Ipswich	22	5	1	6	19	10	2	2	7	12	19
Everton	22	5	2	5	22	12	2	2	8	4	18
Tottenham	22	6	4	2	24	12	1	3	13	18	20
Stoke	22	7	2	3	22	11	2	2	7	13	18
Arsenal	22	9	2	1	22	13	2	1	8	4	21
South. Lincs	22	8	2	2	21	12	3	3	5	11	20
Notts Co	22	8	2	2	21	10	3	3	6	11	20
Swansea	22	6	2	4	17	12	2	2	7	12	20
Luton	22	4	4	4	22	17	1	3	8	12	23
Norwich	22	4	4	4	22	17	1	3	8	12	23
Brighton	22	6	4	2	16	12	1	2	7	9	23
Sunderland	22	3	5	4	14	14	0	8	5	3	12

Below: Coventry's position following their 1-0 home defeat by Birmingham on April 16 leaving them with just one win in 14 games.

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	37	18	3	0	54	13	8	0	43	15	81
Watford	37	14	2	3	34	18	6	5	14	17	60
Man. Utd	34	11	7	0	52	12	4	4	12	13	58
Ar. Villa	36	14	2	2	30	14	4	4	9	23	55
Watf. m F	37	10	4	3	29	15	3	4	4	17	55
Stoke	37	11	4	2	33	17	4	6	9	17	50
South. Lincs	37	11	4	2	33	17	4	6	10	12	54
Tottenham	36	12	4	2	24	14	5	5	12	21	52
West Ham	39	11	3	4	28	18	5	6	12	27	51
West Brom	36	10	3	3	28	18	4	4	11	18	44
Everton	37	9	2	6	28	19	4	4	7	22	40
Spurs	37	9	2	6	30	18	4	4	8	14	48
Arsenal	36	9	3	4	33	19	3	5	9	17	47
West Brom	38	10	4	4	33	23	3	5	13	17	42
Notts Co	37	10	5	2	27	12	2	4	12	16	40
Coventry	38	7	7	4	32	25	4	4	11	16	34
Sunderland	38	7	7	4	32	25	4	4	13	20	44
Man. City	38	8	5	5	32	16	4	4	9	23	41
Norwich	36	8	6	2	32	24	4	4	12	17	37
Luton	36	8	3	5	22	24	0	0	7	12	37
Swansea	37	7	3	5	25	23	1	7	11	33	37
Brighton	37	7	2	5	25	23	1	4	12	10	35
Brighton	36	7	2	5	24	21	1	4	12	10	35



Coventry striker Mark Hateley: "You can't blame it all on the players."

PEN PALS

SWIMMING, listening to music and dancing are my hobbies. I'd like a pen pal of my own age who supports Liverpool or Spurs. Ayantola Alwarr (20), University of Benin, Faculty of Engineering, Main Campus, Benin City, Bendel State, Nigeria.

I'm a 16-year-old Aston Villa fan and my favourite player is Gary Shaw. I'd like a pen pal of my own age. Wendy McCormack (16), 26 Sycamore Crescent, Church Crookham, Aldershot, Hants.

I'd like a pen pal who goes to watch either Spurs or Aston Villa and with whom I can swap mementoes. Darrell Howell (11), 123 Midsummer Avenue, Hounslow, Middlesex.

STAMP collecting, pop music and athletics are my hobbies as well as supporting Liverpool. I'd like to write to someone of my own age who supports either the Anfield team or Manchester United. Alison Roberts (13), 4 Maes Hyfryd, Gaerwen, Gwynedd, North Wales.

I'd like a pen pal of my own age who follows European Champions Aston Villa, Margaret Holland (17), 52 Heol Lechau, Wattstown, Mid-Glamorgan, South Wales.

I'd like a female penfriend from Switzerland of my own age. John Linton (14), 70 Fortwilliam Crescent, Belfast 15 3RD, Northern Ireland.

MANCHESTER United are my favourite team and I'd like to swap football gossip with a girl of my own age. Alison Walters (21), 91 Overpool Road, Eillesmere Port, Merseyside.

I AM an 18-year-old football fanatic from Malaysia. I would like to write to females in England, especially from Manchester, as Manchester United is my favourite team. Bobby Choy Mow Leong, 93 Jalan RCM Rayan, Ipoh Garden, Ipoh, Perak, W. Malaysia.



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Salute to Rangers — Scottish Cup finalists for a remarkable eighth year in succession!

DEFENDER Craig Paterson was convinced he'd cost Rangers a place in the Scottish Cup Final at Hampden Park.

With just five minutes of the Semi-Final against St Mirren to go, the centre-half watched in horror, as his attempted clearance rocketed into the back of his own net.

As the Paisley players danced in delight, Craig sank to the ground in despair. He says: "I just wanted a hole to open up so that I could crawl into it and hide."

The goal gave St Mirren a 1-1 draw and a replay at Hampden Park. Craig admits: "I thought I'd blown it for Rangers. It was a sickening moment for me.

"The players tried to lift my spirits in the dressing room after the game, but it was no use. The pain didn't go until we'd won the replay.

"They kept telling me that the Celtic players, who had just lost to Aberdeen in the other Semi-Final, would be feeling much worse than me.



Craig Paterson: "I just wanted a hole to open up so that I could crawl into it and die."

'I thought I'd blown it'

Paterson relives own-goal horror

"But the days leading up to the replay were very difficult. I couldn't get it out of my mind and it was hard to walk down the street without some joker coming out with a wisecrack.

"At least my agony didn't last too long and I had the consolation of knowing that I had a chance to redeem myself," says Craig, who joined Rangers from Hibernian for £200,000 in the close season.

And the 23-year-old made up for his error in the best possible way. He helped set up Rangers' dramatic and controversial last minute extra-time winner for Sandy Clark.

Recalls Craig: "A corner came over to the far post and I headed it back across the goal to David McPherson. He touched it on to Sandy."

The goal brought furious protests from the St Mirren players. They argued vehemently that the ball didn't cross the line.

"Their players must have been really sick, because they also disputed Sandy's goal in the first game at Parkhead. They were sure that Jim Bett was offside," says Craig.

There were no champagne celebrations in the Rangers dressing room after the victory. He says: "We didn't deserve it because we hadn't played well. Both games were dull, dour affairs."

"The reason for that was because there was so much at stake. The Rangers players certainly realised that a win was absolutely vital to us."

"We had to reach the Final to give us a chance of qualifying for a place in Europe next season. Playing abroad is a must for a club of our stature."

Rangers have already played in a final at Hampden this season. They were beaten 2-1 by Celtic in the League Cup. Craig says: "It would be a tragedy to lose there twice in one season."

Craig is hoping that a winners medal can help erase the memory of a troubled first season with the Glasgow

giants.

He admits: "This campaign has been a nightmare for me. For the first time in my career I've been plagued by injury.

"I injured my ankle playing against Borussia Dortmund and instead of being patient I tried to rush the recovery and played in games when I wasn't fully fit.

"At one stage I was becoming a 70 minute footballer — always having to leave the field before the final whistle," says Craig, who has played in less than half Rangers' Premier Division games this season.

While Craig was sitting it out on the sidelines, the club were going through a turbulent time on the pitch and slipped into a middle of the table position, after a good start to the season.

"It was so frustrating. At least if you are playing you can do something to help. There's nothing you can do from the stands.

"Fans at Ibrox demand success. They've been weaned on the glory years enjoyed by people like John. In many ways he's set his own high standards and he's been judged by them."

The table below shows how Rangers have fared in the last seven Scottish FA Cup Finals. When they take on Aberdeen next month it will be their fifteenth appearance at Hampden in the past 22 years and their 38th Cup Final appearance — having won the trophy 24 times in their 110 year history.

RANGERS' FINAL FLINGS

1976 RANGERS 3, Hearts 1
1977 Celtic 1, RANGERS 0
1978 RANGERS 2, Aberdeen 1
1979 RANGERS 3, Hibernian 2 (after two goalless draws)
1980 Celtic 1, RANGERS 0
1981 RANGERS 4, Dundee United 1 (after goalless draw)
1982 Aberdeen 4, RANGERS 1 (after extra time)

ON THE MARK!

FALCO HITS IT OFF WITH BRAZIL

WHEN Spurs manager Keith Burkinshaw splashed out £500,000 on Scottish international striker Alan Brazil, it looked like the end of the line for Mark Falco at White Hart Lane.

With more than £1 million of striking talent already there in the shape of Garth Crooks and Steve Archibald, cost-nothing Mark feared he might have lost his six-year battle to establish himself in the side.

But loss of form by Steve and Garth gave the 22-year-old a chance to partner the former Ipswich star and the new formation has produced goals for the London side.

Mark admits: "Since Alan arrived, things have worked out much better than I expected. When he joined I knew there would be a squeeze for first team places and it was a question of who would play alongside him.

"I'd made my mind up to wait and see how the situation developed at Spurs," says Mark, who was recalled to the first team for the game at Notts County.

Shake-up

"The side wasn't doing very well at the time and Keith decided to have a big shake-up. My name was mentioned because I was scoring goals in the reserves. Just before my call-up, I had scored a hat-trick in an 8-0 win over Oxford."

Spurs lost the game at Meadow Lane 3-0 with Mark in a midfield role, but he retained his place for the next match at Coventry and was pushed up front.

"Since then, everything has clicked," says Mark, who scored five goals in his next four games.

The striker made his bow with Alan in the 1-0 win at Watford and he says: "We seemed to hit it off almost immediately. Alan is a great player to partner.

"He's used to having a big fellow to feed off and I hope I can play that same role. He's a good finisher and puts in a lot of unselfish running."

Because Mark couldn't establish himself in the first team, Keith Burkinshaw allowed him to go on loan to London neighbours Chelsea for a month.



Mark Falco — formed a lethal scoring partnership with Alan Brazil.

Mark says: "I didn't get on very well. The club were struggling in the Second Division and I didn't score a goal in my three games there.

"There was no question of me going to Stamford Bridge on a permanent basis. Keith wanted me to get some first team experience.

"The football was totally different to what I was used to. It seemed so much faster and players were more hurried on the ball. But it was a good experience."

Mark burst on to the scene at the beginning of last season when he scored twice at Wembley in the FA Charity Shield match against then League Champions Aston Villa.

Even after that great start, Mark had to be content with filling in when others were injured. He made just 21 League appearances last season and he admits: "It's taking me a long time to get established in the first team. I've been here since I was 16."

Mark is enjoying a run in the side now but he says: "There's no way I'm guaranteed a place. I'll always be looking over my shoulder. Competition for places here is so fierce.

"My aim is to stay at Spurs and make as many League appearances as my skipper Steve Perryman, but to do that I know I'll always have to give 100 per cent or I'll be out."

It's been a disappointing season for Tottenham — winners of the FA Cup for the past two years — and Mark says: "It's strange not being among the honours at this stage of the season.

"The main problem has been with injuries. We haven't been able to field the same team twice.

"Despite that, we are still in line for a place in Europe. That just goes to show the strength in depth we've got here."

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